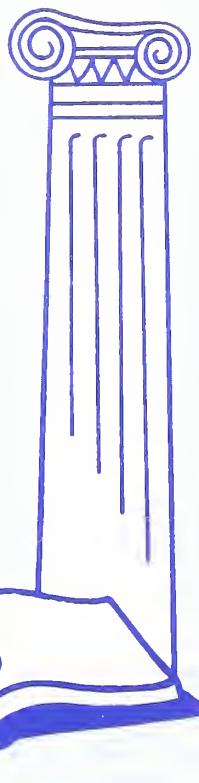
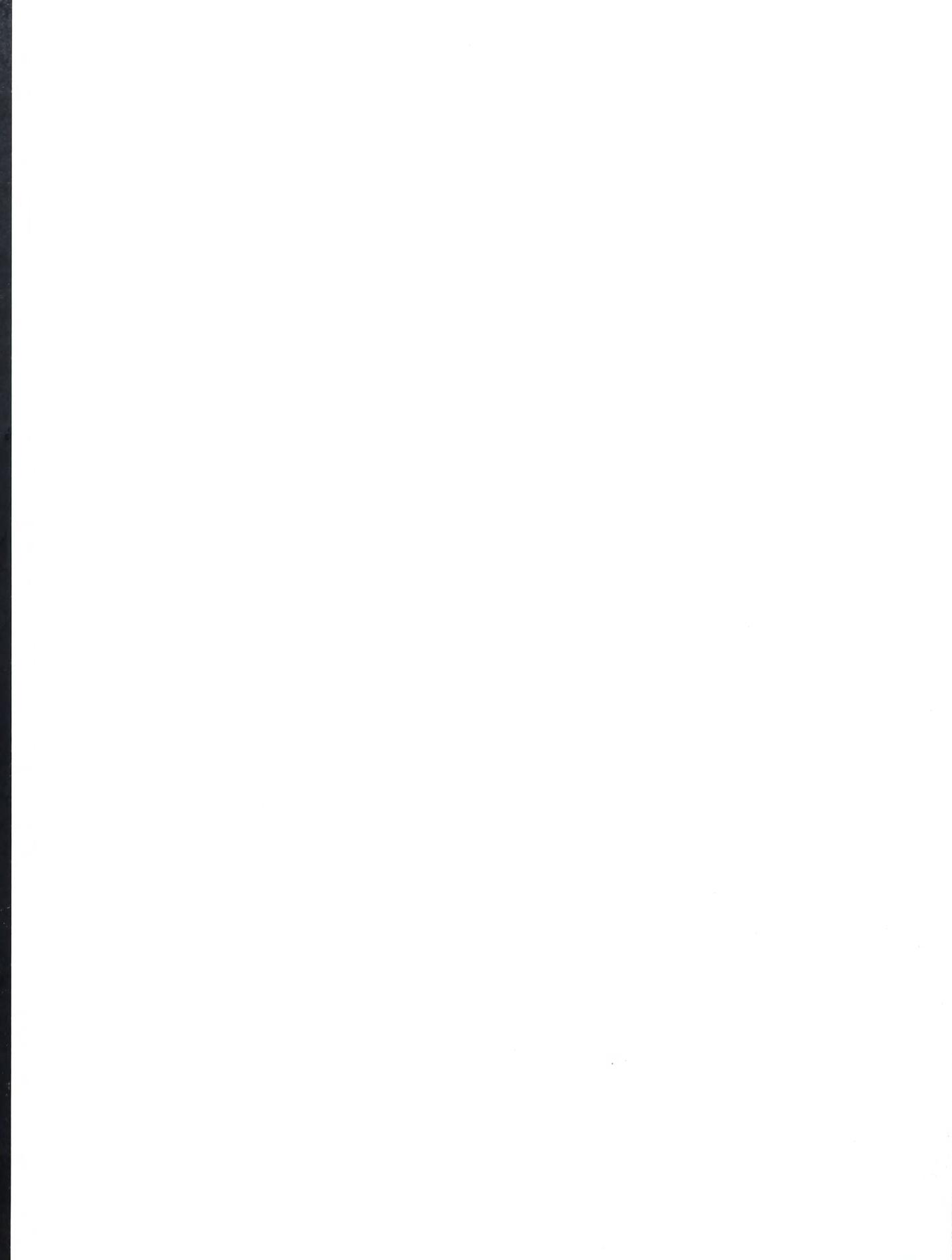


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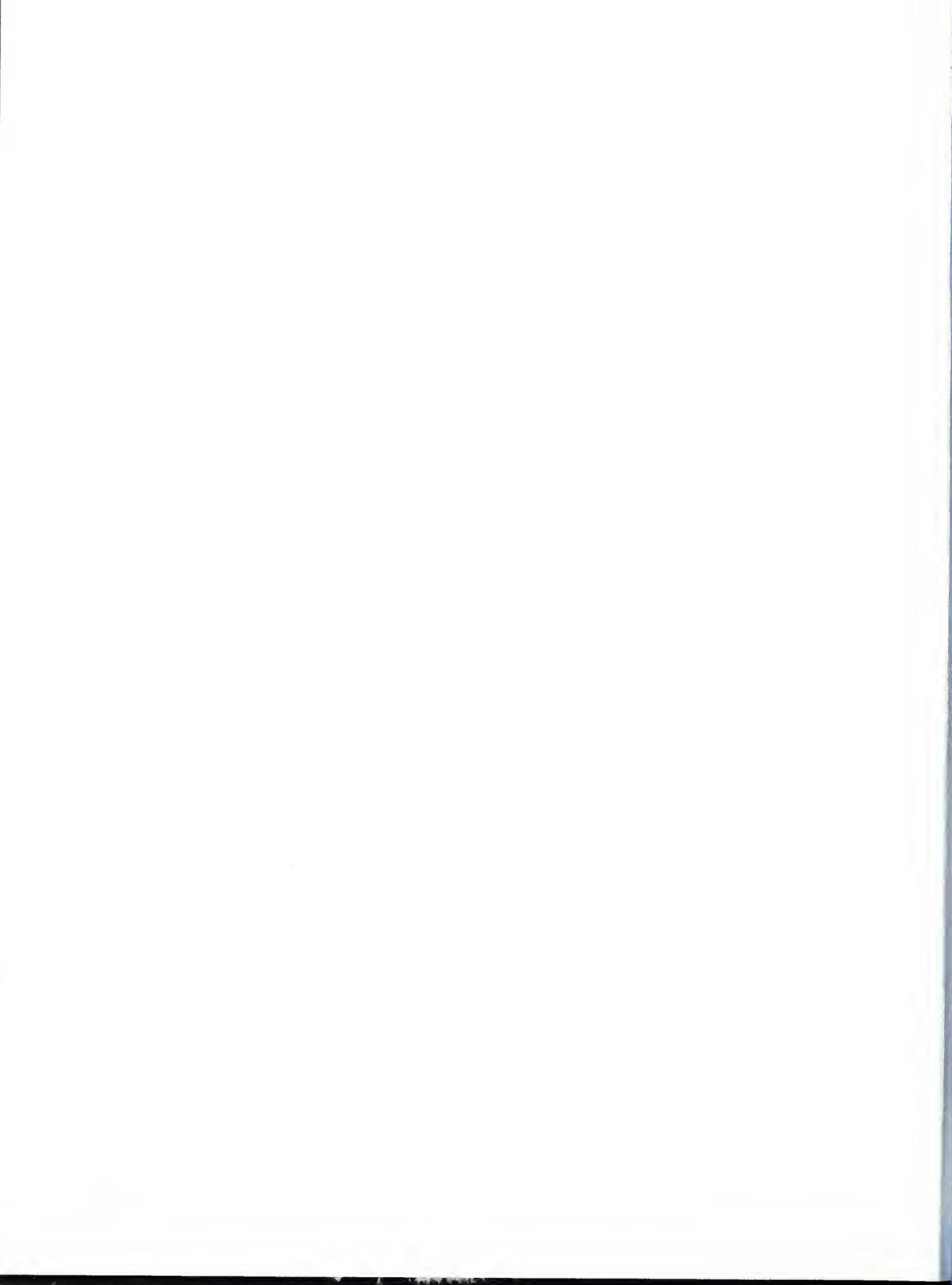
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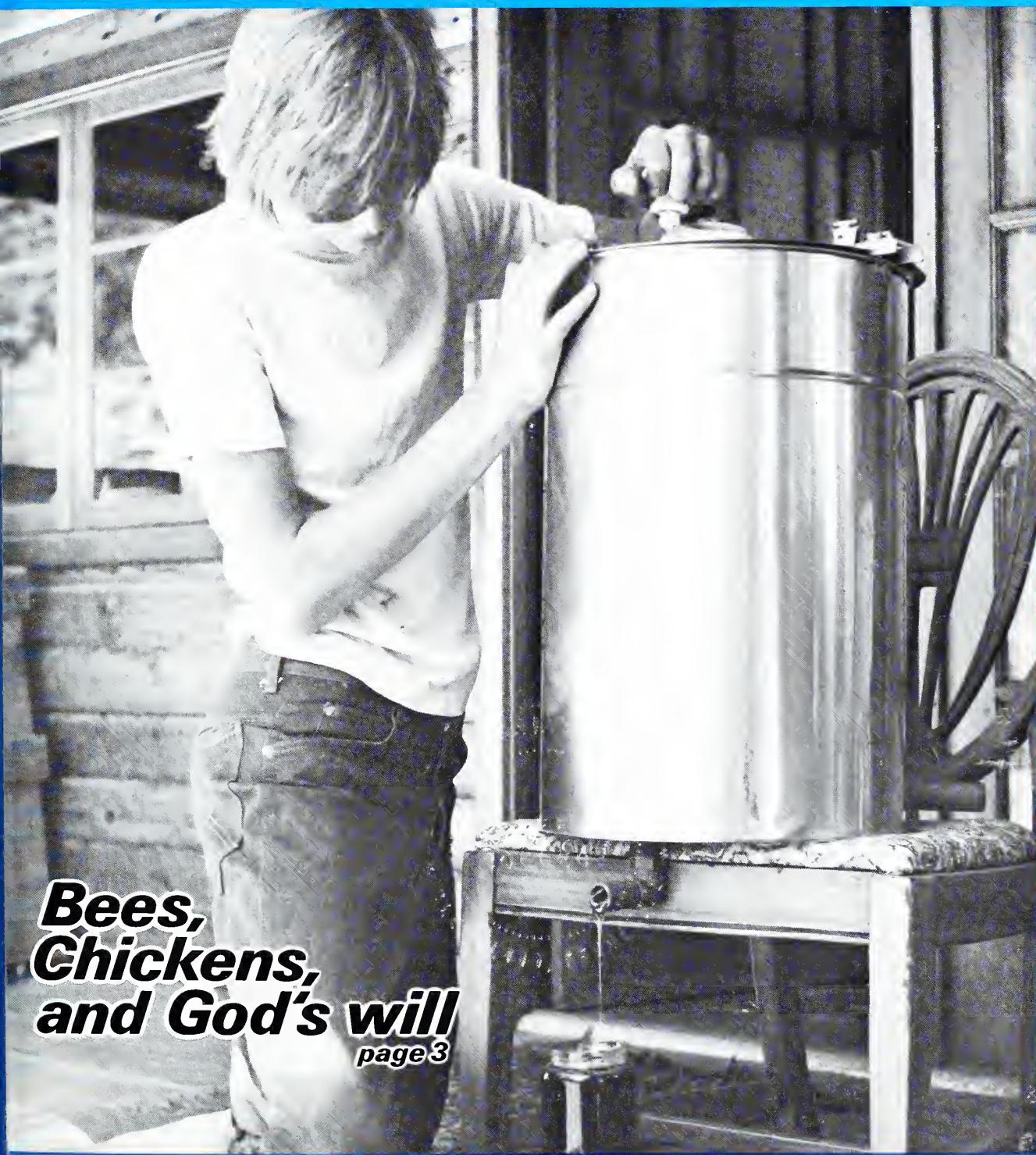
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LIGHTED Pathway

GUIDING YOUTH



**Bees,
Chickens,
and God's will**

page 3

LIGHTED PATHWAY

Pathway

GUIDING YOUTH

January, 1978

Volume 49, No. 1

CONTENTS

- 3** Bees, Chickens, and God's Will
By Walt Carter
- 6** Youth Rock for Missions
By Phyllis Hitte
- 8** What Are You Waiting For?
By Sonja Deming
- 9** Like Pentecost
By Irma Williams
- 10** Peacemakers and Peace Cadets
Achievement Award
By Lamar Vest
- 11** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 12** Take a Recess
By Clarice Pullen
- 13** Truthway
- 17** To Save With Fear
By Lance Colkmire
- 18** Pathway Pointers
- 20** Message From the Stars
By Mary Louise Kitsen
- 22** 2-IN-1 Bible Puzzle
By Ruth Rexroat
- 24** Life After Death
By Muriel Larson
- 26** Call of the Master
By Bernice Stout Woodard
- 27** Desk of the Editor

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BY WALT CARTER



Steve Van Doren demonstrates use of extractor (or "spinner") in removing honey from frames (or honeycombs).

BEEES, CHICKENS, AND GOD'S WILL

Most people run from bees, but not Steve Van Doren of Frazier Park in California. He runs after them!

Well, not literally; but if you have a swarm of bees that you don't want, Steve will be only too glad to take it off your hands. And he would consider it God's will for him to do just that!

What? Has Steve been stung in the head a few times too many? Not at all. While a lot of born-again 15-year-olds are planning careers in the ministry, Christian education, and youth work, Steve feels called to be a beekeeper!

Strange? A little weird?

Hardly. If you discard the idea that God only calls Christians into full-time church-related careers, you are on the right track. God wants Christians in *every* occupation, as long as it is honest work, of course.

Sometimes you need to look at both your interests and your abilities when it comes to choosing a career. Not every Christian is equipped to become a preacher, after all; and wouldn't it be a tragedy if everyone who was saved, became a preacher? What would happen to all the non-Christians who never attend church?

There is such a thing as open doors and closed doors. God is an expert at opening and

closing them, too.

Let's go back to my lanky friend, Steve, who is built more like a basketball player than a beekeeper. When he was eleven or twelve, he went into the chicken business, beginning with thirty chickens. In the catalog there was an ad for bees on the adjoining page, and he immediately became interested in bees, too.

"Absolutely not!" he quotes his mother as saying. "You may have either chickens or bees, but not both."

He chose the chickens. I should point out that Frazier Park is in the mountains about seventy miles north of Los Angeles, and Steve's home

BEES, CHICKENS, AND GOD'S WILL /CONTINUED

is in a rural area which is ideal for raising poultry—or so he thought.

Within a short while, however, half of the chickens died. "A few also met the ax," Steve admits. Eventually, all the chickens were gone.

Next, Steve got a beehive, even though he didn't have any bees. "At the time I didn't really feel led of the Spirit or anything," he said. "I just wanted to do it."

In July of 1975, when Steve was fourteen, an elderly man in the community gave him a swarm of about 60,000 bees.

"Of course, there's more to it than that," Steve explained. "If the queen bee doesn't like a hive, she won't go in. Fortunately she liked mine; so, naturally, the other bees did, too. It was like an answer to prayer, as far as I was concerned."

The way he got another swarm during the summer of '76 also indicates to Steve that he is in God's will.

"I had driven my dune buggy over to this church camp called 'Vision Valley Ranch' to see about a part-time job," Steve recalled. "On the way back (by the way, I got the job), I noticed some bees flying around near an old deserted turkey ranch. I stopped to take a look and discovered a small swarm. I took an empty hive over and captured the swarm."

Now, with more than 160,000 bees working for him, Steve is convinced that this is the work God wants him to do. Eventually he hopes to have two thousand hives.

"Bees are very important," he said, "a lot more important than most people realize. They pol-

lenize fruit trees and crops, besides producing one of the oldest and best natural sweeteners. Honey is mentioned many times in the Bible."

If you talk with Steve, you can feel his sincere interest in bees. I was with him as he checked his hives—something he does every couple of weeks—and it was almost like watching a proud father with his children.

"But what about the future?" I asked him. "What if God calls you into something else?"

He shrugged. "Then I'll do it, whatever it is."

In other words, Steve Van Doren is a Christian first and a beekeeper second. He accepted Christ at the ripe old age of five in a vacation Bible school setting.

"I really believe I was born again then, even though I didn't fully understand all that took place. I rededicated my life to the Lord at the age of eleven while attending a Saturday night youth rally."

A lot of young people—and older people, too—make a big deal about discovering God's will for their lives when it doesn't have to be like that at all. If you are actively involved in His work, as Steve is, and are aware of the opportunities around you (whether they are church-related or not) there shouldn't be any problem.

You can try different jobs or majors (just as Steve tried chickens); but if it isn't what you should be doing, God will close that door in His own way.

And when He closes one door, another one will open. The door may not always open immediately, but it will open in good time—God's time.

For example, when I en-

tered college, I was determined that I would become an actor. God had other ideas. I found out that I hated "theater arts," as the course was called, and couldn't wait to get out of it.

The next year I took a variety of courses, including one in journalism, something which had never interested me in the past. Almost before I knew what was happening, I was a paid employee of a local daily newspaper; and a year or so later I was editing my own page!

My journalism teacher decided to start a course in photography at that time, and I was one of her first students. I liked it, even though I had had no previous experience.

Now, as a full-time free-lance writer-photographer, I realize that God has been leading me all the time, just as He has been leading my friend Steve, the beekeeper.

You may not be interested in bees, or journalism, or photography, but that is quite all right. After all, you are an individual. Just make yourself available to God, and He will help you to make the right decisions.

If you are a Christian, you will never be truly happy unless you are doing what God wants you to do. Don't fight it. He knows *everything*, including what will be best for you. That's more than man can say.

There is a contentment in Steve Van Doren's expression as he talks about his bees. Maybe if you stop buzzing around so much, constantly getting stung by the doubts and frustrations Satan sends your way, the peace and contentment of knowing God's will for your life can be yours, too. 



Steve Van Doren inspects bee-laden frames at one of his hives.



Top left: Conney Hyatt, "24 hours is a long time to rock." Top right: Debbie Warren, "I had 30 sponsors and won a scholarship to youth camp." Middle: Part of the 46 youth who participated, "The Rock-A-Thon sounds like it will be a lot of fun." Bottom: Youth Council—The youth council makes plans for YWEA Rock-A-Thon.

YOUTH ROCK FOR MISSIONS

BY PHYLLIS HITTE

What are you worth?" You might think that this is a rather strange question, but if you had been a young person attending the Loudon Avenue Church of God (Lexington, Kentucky) in April, 1977, you would have known at once that this really meant, "How many sponsors do you have so far?" or "How much do you have pledged for each hour?"

The youth of the church began work early to raise money for the YWEA Project—a Bible school in Seoul, Korea. Their goal was set at \$2,000. The Youth Council, led by the youth minister, Steve Hitte, guided the ideas of the young people and settled on one main project—a rock-a-thon. Once this decision was made,

they needed a plan. That's when they mobilized and started to work. First, a "rocker kit" was prepared. This kit contained a list of rules, a sponsor sheet, and a registration form. Each young person who participated was urged to get as many sponsors as possible, and the sponsor was to pay not less than twenty-five cents an hour. The more sponsors, the more money for souls! They were encouraged to contact school friends, teachers, neighbors, business people, dentists, doctors, and relatives, as well as church friends. Even Pastor Troy Baggett was challenged and collected sponsors totaling \$20 an hour.

As time grew closer, the enthusiasm mounted! Who would win the youth camp scholarship

that had been designated as the award for the one raising the most money?

Finally, the day arrived. The rocking chairs were in place in the tabernacle at the Kentucky State Campground. The young people began to arrive carrying blankets, pillows, books, radios, snacks, a stereo, and even a TV! They were ready for action! Bravely, at 6 p.m. they began the 24-hour long vigil!

The kitchen crew began work early preparing the "fuel." These kids would be needing a lot of energy if this project was to be successful.

The rockers had scarcely had time to get settled when the local TV cameras arrived. "Look at that man rocking, wearing that cowboy hat! Why, that looks just like Pastor Baggett!" Everyone who watched the news that night learned of the YWEA Project, and they were invited to come watch the action and to contribute to the cause.

As the night wore on and eyes grew heavy, someone would suddenly shout, "Keep rocking—only fourteen hours and twenty-two minutes to go!" Then came a massive groan!

Suddenly the sun peeped up over the clouds and it was time for breakfast—fresh hot doughnuts! They hit the spot!

Finally, it was 5:59 p.m. and the countdown began. Then it was all over! Parents were there to collect their very sleepy teens and to congratulate them on a job well-done.

When it was all over and the money was collected and turned in, the grand total was \$3,300. There were no donations from the church mission fund; it was all raised through the rock-a-thon.

We praise God for His bountiful blessings and for our young people who cared enough about souls to work and then to sit and rock for twenty-four hours. 

Are you waiting for the day when you will drive that car of your own, meet the "right" person and fall in love, graduate from school, be on your own? If so, you are not alone. Often, to a young person, waiting seems almost endless. Goals fade into the future as time passes slowly by. If possible, we would grow up overnight, and wishes and dreams would come true instantly. In reality, however, we must wait and work for our desires.

Young and old alike experience periods of waiting, and God desires that we know their purpose. He has given us biblical examples of individuals and a nation who waited for God's promises to be fulfilled and for their prayers to be answered. Such was Abraham to whom God promised a son. When that promise seemed late in its fulfillment, Sarah and Abraham tried to "help God." Much trouble and heartache resulted. Their promised son, Isaac, was born later—exactly when God had planned. God received the glory, and Abraham learned a lesson in waiting.

In another story, Israel's future leader and deliverer, Moses, saw the oppression of his people and was angered to the point of killing an Egyptian taskmaster. If possible, he would have set the people free and would have led them out of Egypt. However, at that time Moses was not prepared to be a leader; and the children of Israel were not ready to follow Moses—even though their plight was desperate. In the desert for forty years, Moses learned humility, obedience, and patience. Meanwhile, Israel suffered, waited, and cried to God. He heard their cries, prepared a leader, and delivered them in His time.

As Christians, we need to

evaluate our attitude toward waiting. Are we resentful to God or someone else if we do not receive our requests when we want them? How do we react in our heart and with our words when a friend receives the very thing we desire? If there is resentment, jealousy, envy, or hatred in our heart, we must repent and ask God to help us have an attitude pleasing to Him.

"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord" (Psalm 27:



CAMERIQUE PHOTO

WHAT
ARE YOU
WAITING
FOR?

BY SONJIA DEMING

14). If we see our waiting as from the Lord, much of the suffering and irritation will vanish. Neither will we rush ahead of God's schedule for our lives. God, as director of the human symphony, chooses both the melody and the *tempo*.

God desires to mold and make us into the best person possible for Him—but not in a single day. It is a gradual process. We often cannot see beyond the present when our desires go unfulfilled, but God sees eternal relationships. If, in His wisdom, He withholds for a while something which we may want very much, should we argue? Or, if He takes away something or someone we cherish, should we distrust or reject His plan? Disappointments and delays—even setbacks—are tools with which God shapes us. They are easier to accept if we remember that He controls everything which happens to His children.

Our lives will continue more smoothly if we leave the planning and timing of events to God. The things He denies now He may grant later. God's reply is not always simply "Yes," or "No." Often it is, "Wait." Sometimes we must rearrange our priorities. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

God is capable of planning and carrying out that plan for our lives. We must let Him do it. Working things out ourselves can cause problems. God can also help us to wait patiently. Let us ask.

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31). "Wait, I say, on the Lord" (Psalm 27:14). ☩

LIKE PENTECOST

BY IRMA WILLIAMS

I have a very beautiful story to tell. It was shared with me by Ethel Brummett.

The Reverend A. W. Brummett, Ethel's husband, is the superintendent of the Church of God in Central and North Africa. This means that Brother Brummett has an area of more than 500 churches and 50,000 members in his care.

In November of 1976, Brother Brummett had a wonderful experience in the country of Egypt. He does not speak the Arabic language; he preaches through an interpreter. One evening, he spoke to a congregation several miles from Cairo in a very primitive area. After the sermon, the people were worshiping and praising God (Pentecostal style) when suddenly Brother Brummett was attracted by an Arab boy approximately nineteen years old. The young man was worshiping and glorifying God in perfect English.

Upon hearing the youth magnifying Christ in the English language, Brother Brummett inquired of the interpreter, "Does this young man know the English language?"

"No," the interpreter answered, "he is speaking in the Holy Spirit."

They listened as the young Arab continued worshiping and praising the Lord in the English language.

This inspiring experience had such a great effect on Brother Brummett that he spoke with the boy's pastor about it. "Tell me more about this young man. Does he speak any English?"

"Oh, no," the pastor replied. "He is without any schooling and does not speak his own language well."

But the Holy Spirit had moved upon him, and he had been speaking perfect English—just as they were in Acts 2:1-18. For on the Day of Pentecost the Galileans spoke in at least fifteen different languages, and the people marveled at hearing these Galileans speak the different languages.

There is a verse in the Bible that says, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels" (1 Corinthians 13:1). And Brother Brummett asks, "Who knows when the Holy Spirit speaks whether it is the tongues of men or angels?"

But he adds, "This young Arab's speech was the language of men!" 



PEACEMAKERS and PEACE CADETS

ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD
BY LAMAR VEST

A

great sports team usually has great individual players, but even that is not what makes it great. Great teams are made by teamwork—each teammate doing his very best to cooperate and to contribute to the togetherness and the success of the team.

Teamwork is one of the great qualities of Peacemakers and Peace Cadets. Each year Peacemakers and Peace Cadets are asked to cooperate with youth groups throughout the Church of God by participating in one or more designated activities. The designated activities are included in the annual Resource Manuals. Each group who completes the designated activities becomes eligible for the Achievement Award which is designed to be placed on the Peacemakers and Peace Cadets group banner.

1977-78 Peacemakers Designated Activities

1. *Participate in National Youth Emphasis—"Living by the Word."* Although National Youth Emphasis was designed for October, a local church may sponsor it at a later time.
2. *A local church project.* Several projects are suggested in the Sponsor's Resource Manual, such as painting a Sunday school classroom, raising funds for needed church equipment, beginning or helping maintain a church library, and many more.
3. *Participation in Youth World Evangelism Appeal.* The 1977-78 YWEA project is the International Church in New York City.



1977-78 Peace Cadets Designated Activities

1. *Tract distribution.* Peace Cadets are asked to participate in sharing the gospel message by distributing tracts.
2. *A local church project.* Several fund-raising ideas are given in the Peace Cadets Resource Manual to aid Peace Cadets in raising funds to purchase needed equipment or materials for the local church.
3. *Participation in Youth World Evangelism Appeal.* Through YWEA, Peace Cadets are exposed to missions education and missions stewardship.

The annual Peacemakers and Peace Cadets Resource Manuals contain a designated activities form which should be properly completed and mailed to the General Department of Youth and Christian Education no later than May 15. How about it? Let's try for a little teamwork!

Church of God Department of Youth and Christian Education

ACTION

NEWS & VIEWS

by Lucille Walker

Enter the Teen Talent Creative Writing Competition

"I could not believe it! Me—a national winner?" began Polly D'Anne Heil, a Teen Talent Creative Writing winner in the Articles and Essays Division. "My reason for entering Teen Talent was to share with you the wonderful way the Lord heals and protects today."

Polly continued, "The main point I would like to stress is this: Please, please take advantage of the opportunity to share what the Lord has done for you. Although everyone cannot be a national winner, everyone can enter the program and can share with other teens."

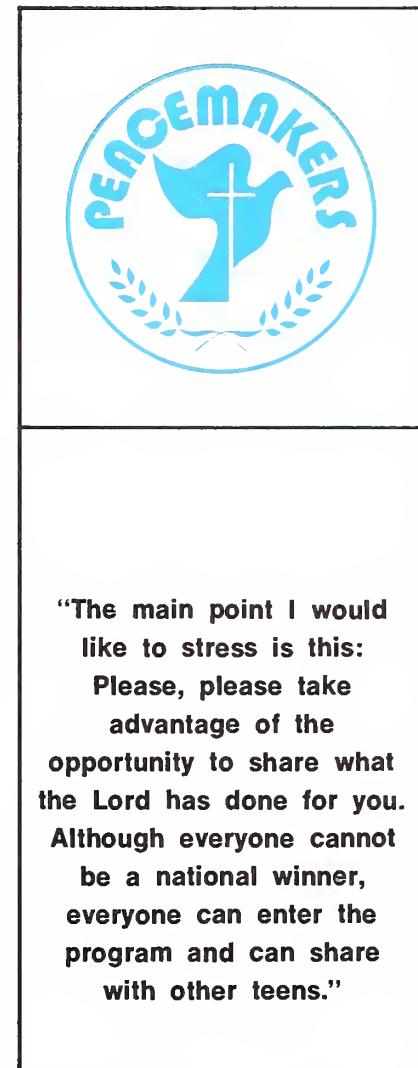
"When I submitted the essay," Polly writes, "I prayed that God would use it in the best possible way to bring glory to His name. I thought the piece was so terrible that I didn't even keep a copy of it; but I felt that I could lose nothing by entering. Was I ever surprised when my letter of congratulations came!"

How are you coming along on that poem, skit, article, or short story that you have had in mind for the Teen Talent Creative Writing Division?

All teens are eligible to participate. This is your opportunity to share a beautiful, enduring message with others. And it is also your opportunity to get professional evaluation of your talent, and even professional pointers for your improvement and further development.

Don't forget that it must be submitted to your state youth director before March 1, and winning state manuscripts are to be submitted for the national competition by May 1.

Each entry must be original and unpublished. Articles and essays should not be over 1,200 words. Poetry should not be more than 100 lines. Skits and plays should not be more than 1,500



**"The main point I would like to stress is this:
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Although everyone cannot
be a national winner,
everyone can enter the
program and can share
with other teens."**

words, and short stories not more than 1,200 words. A contestant may submit an entry in two categories.

For further help, you can secure a *Creative Writing Manual* for \$1.00 from the General Department or from your State Director.

Send your entry typed (double-spaced), with your name, address, age, and title to your State Director of Youth and Christian Education. He will submit state winning entries to the General Department.

National winners will be notified by July 15. Although there are no financial awards, the winners will be recognized on Youth Night at the General Assembly, and all category winners will be featured in the *Lighted Pathway*.

Response From Zambia

John Daka Mambo, provincial director of youth in the Eastern Province of Zambia has written to greet the youth of the Church of God in America. He visits the local churches and teaches Family Training Hour, Sunday school lessons, and Christian Life studies.

He requests Christian books and literature to help him in his teaching ministry. He also requests letters from young people in America.

If you would like to write him or send him copies of *Evangels*, *Lighted Pathways*, Sunday school books, music or sermon tapes, his address is John Daka Mambo, P. O. Box 2533, Lusaka, Zambia, Central Africa.

Poll of 1,000 Church Youth

The Assemblies of God recently polled a representative sampling of 1,000 teenagers in their churches across America. They found that their church and the home make a winning combination for young people.

Over 80 percent of the young people professed to be born again, and 87 percent indicated that they attend church regularly; 88 percent listed one or both parents as Christians (62 percent fathers, 82 percent mothers); 92.5 percent said that they have never tried drugs; and 88 percent never drink alcoholic beverages.



Do you feel that you need a vacation—remote and unattainable though the idea may seem? Would you like to retreat to some far-off Shangri-La with other youths? Do you feel an urgency to play truant to your own timetable?

It has been said that a change is as good as a rest. I have found it so, discovering that short interludes away from my frenzied routines and bustling activities give me a breather.

I have discovered that spending a little while alone to re-evaluate my personal attitudes

and needs refreshes me with new poise and new perspective.

Sometimes I need to slow down and experience the therapy that "alone-ness" offers—moments without conversation while walking alone in a park or garden or along a city block, or while just relaxing in my oversize armchair.

In a recent article, Shirley Gordon listed five qualities for everyday living. In her discussion of one of them she recalled an old saying of the American Indian: "Talking spills one's powers."

Moments when one is alone need not be barren. They can be jeweled "time-stops."

Ann Blyth, with her busy and tiring schedules, had the habit of setting aside a little time daily for doing nothing at all—just lazing away muscular tension and quieting her mind.

Maxwell Maltz, M.D., told of a "secret mental room" to which he would retire. Harry Truman was known to boast of his own "mental-foxhole."

In Mark 6:31, Jesus said: "Come . . . apart . . . and rest

a while." He often stole away from the crowds.

Shakespeare wrote: "To thine own self be true." Emily Cady, teacher and author, says that "victory must be won in the silence of our own being first."

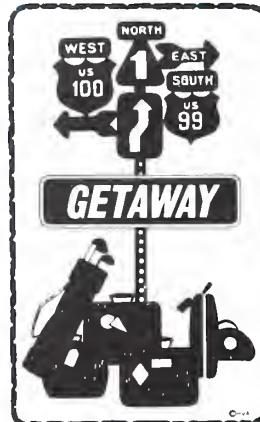
The clanging of the recess bell is like music to the ears of students and teachers. It is the break in routines, though brief, that loosens the pressures.

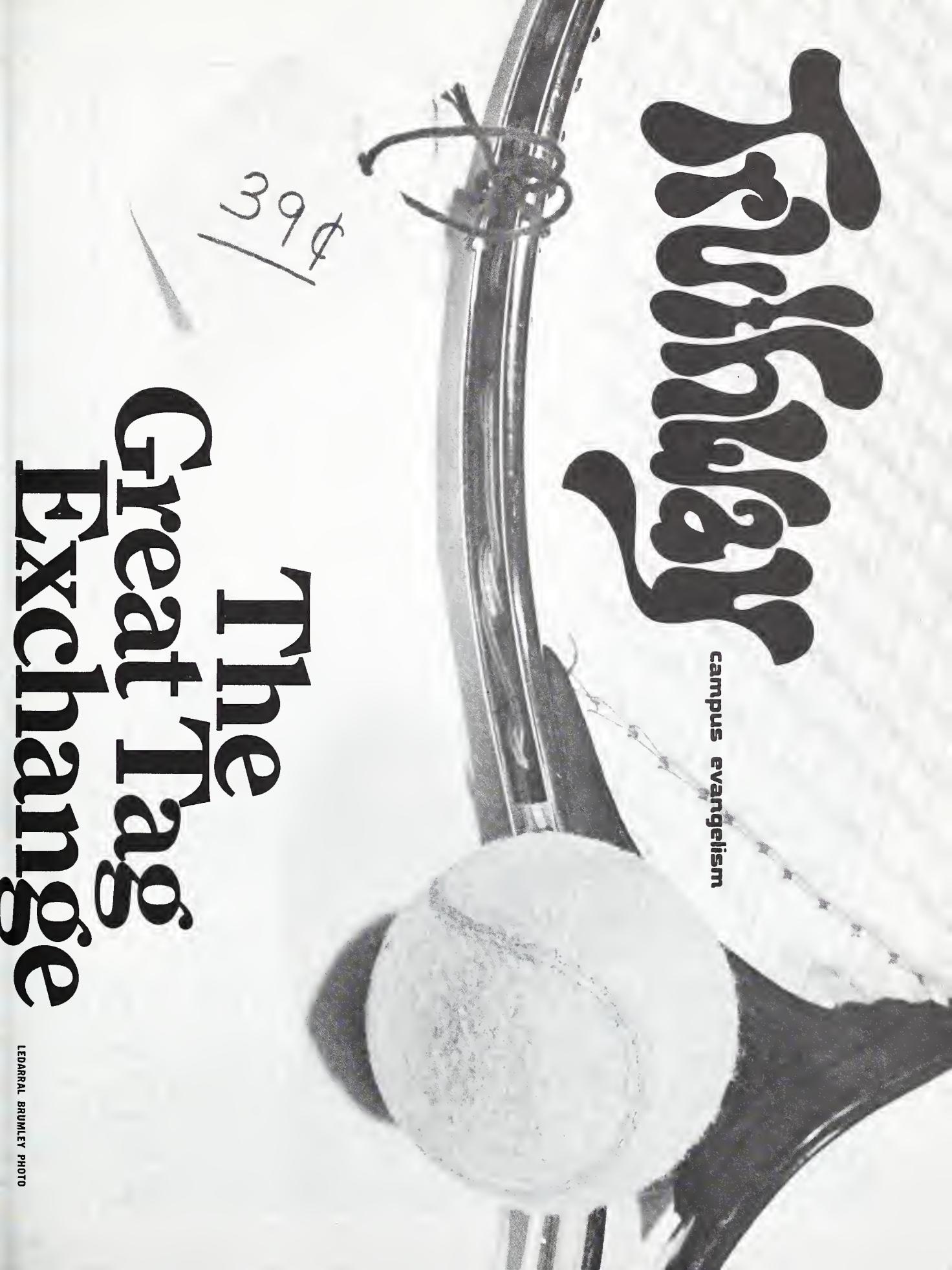
To become detached from our weariness and problems does not always mean that we must go miles away with luggage and travel funds. I have found that my "recesses" enhance my days.



TAKE A RECESS

BY CLARICE PULLEN



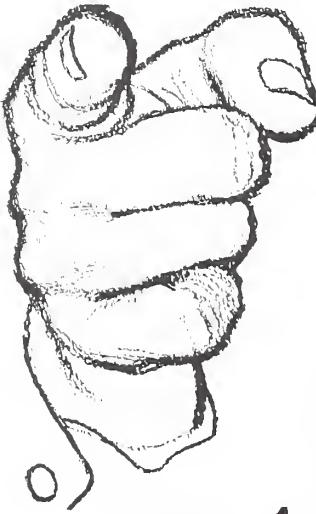


Evangelism

campus evangelism

The Great Tag Exchange

TV and YOU



Dr. Robert Fisher

Is it possible that the innocent-looking little box called a television set in your living room, den, or bedroom is really a deadly monster? Hardly, you say. Well, maybe so or maybe not; but the fact is that TV has a terrific influence upon our lives. *Campus Life* pointed out recently that "television has become such a part of our lives that we accept it without thinking. We sit so close to the little screen that we don't see the big picture."

- It cost \$250,000 to advertise for one minute during the telecast of the 1977 Super Bowl.
- A survey of inmates in a maximum security prison in Michigan recently revealed that nine out of every ten prisoners had learned new criminal tricks by watching TV. Four out of every ten admitted copying specific television crimes.

- According to Dr. George Gerbner from the University of Pennsylvania, the more TV you watch, the more afraid you become. "TV is creating a meaner world where people feel they can't trust anyone," he says.

FACTS

Here are some facts about television that show just how powerful a force it is in our lives, our homes, and our society:

• By the time the average

TV TEST

Take this quick TV test to rate television's influence on your own life.

1. Do you think you watch TV too much?
Yes () No ()
2. Do you ever neglect your homework or other worthwhile activities to watch TV?
Yes () No ()
3. Do you frequently watch TV while you are eating?
Yes () No ()
4. Do you usually turn on the television as soon as you get home from school?
Yes () No ()
5. Do you ever miss church to watch a certain television program?
Yes () No ()
6. Do you ever watch programs you feel guilty about watching?
Yes () No ()
7. Do you ever argue with your parents about what shows you should watch?
Yes () No ()
8. Do you often fall asleep watching TV?
Yes () No ()

If you answered "yes" to five or more of these questions, TV may be a problem for you. Check your TV viewing habits and see if they can be improved.



- Teenage boys spend more time in front of the television set than do teenage girls—22 hours and 35 minutes per week for the boys as compared to 21 hours and 5 minutes for the girls.



Anyway you look at it.....
TV does affect your life-style.

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Keith at 25th Street, N.W.
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The following are some simple rules that may help you to keep your TV viewing habits more in line with your Christian commitment:

1. Try to get other important tasks out of the way before you watch TV.
2. Set certain nights during the week when you will watch no television at all.
3. Learn to change channels or to turn off the set when programs become offensive.
4. Do not watch TV while you are eating.
5. Select good programs in advance from the TV log. Do not watch programs at random.
6. Do not miss church or other worthwhile activities just to watch a certain program.
7. Make TV viewing a family affair as much as possible.

On, Campus
A Christian Guide
Paul E. Duncan

Church of God Department of Youth and Christian Education

Staff:
Floyd D. Carey
R. Lamar Vest
J. Ralph Brewer
Lucille Walker

Compiled by R. Lamar Vest

H ave you heard the story of vandals who broke into a department store in the middle of the night but didn't steal anything?

They simply switched all the price tags.

Next day, customers found Head tennis rackets going for 39 cents and sweat socks for \$3.00. Ten-speed racing bikes were marked at \$1.29 and portable transistor radios sold for \$259.99. Bedlam broke loose and frazzled store clerks finally had to clear the store.

On hearing this, a friend of ours commented, "That's what happened to me when I started following Jesus. He changed all the price tags."

He did. Jesus set out the way He recommends to happiness in the longest speech He ever gave. His conclusions are shaking people up today just as severely as they shook up His listeners then. Most people think about happiness and suc-

cess this way, according to J. B. Phillips:

Happy are the "pushers": for they get on in the world.

Happy are the hard-boiled: for they never let life hurt them.

Happy are they who complain: for they get their own way in the end.

Happy are the blasé: for they never worry over their sins.

Happy are the slave drivers: for they get results.

Happy are the knowledgeable men of the world: for they know their way around.

Happy are the troublemakers: for they make people take notice of them.

But listen carefully to what Jesus Christ said:

"Humble men are very fortunate!" He told them, "for the King-

dom of Heaven is given to them.

"Those who mourn are fortunate! for they shall be comforted.

"The meek and lowly are fortunate! for the whole wide world belongs to them.

"Happy are those who long to be just and good, for they shall be completely satisfied.

"Happy are the kind and merciful, for they shall be shown mercy.

"Happy are those whose hearts are pure, for they shall see God.

"Happy are those who strive for peace—they shall be called the sons of God.

"Happy are those who are persecuted because they are good, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs."

Have you noticed any switched price tags? ■

TO SAVE WITH FEAR

BY LANCE COLKMIRE

Joel quietly wondered what all the hustle-bustle was about. He had heard a couple of sirens whiz by his house, followed by a number of automobiles and pedestrians. When Joel stepped outside, the smell of smoke filled his nostrils. Hurriedly leaping onto his motorcycle, Joel headed for a brightly lit portion of the evening sky.

There was a fire nearby. As he sped along through the residential section, worrisome thoughts began to race through his mind: *Is someone's home burning? If so, is it a friend's home? Has anyone been harmed?* After traveling nearly a mile, he reached the burning house where about one hundred spectators stood watching the complete destruction of a frame home.

Climbing off his bike, Joel quickly surveyed the area. No, it wasn't the home of anyone he knew. Later that night the words of a television newscaster shot out at Joel: "A ten-year-old girl died today in a fire."

Enraged, he switched off the TV and began to seethe. It seemed that many people had arrived at the burning home before the firefighters or the ambulance came and had seen the child screaming for help. Yet, none of them had been willing to help her, though all knew that "someone" should do something. Angrily muttering to himself, he began preparing

for bed. "God, how could people be so cruel, so self-centered, so uncaring? If only I had been there a few minutes sooner . . . if only I had, if only . . ." His voice trailed off. Joel climbed into bed, but sleep didn't come easy.

The Spirit of the Lord was speaking to the young Christian's heart: "You are there; you are there. Don't you understand?"

Bowing his head, he asked the Lord for wisdom and direction. He then drifted off to sleep. Slowly, a picture of the burning house formed in



Joel's dreaming mind. In this scene, however, the characters were different.

Joel saw himself there among the spectators. But standing alongside him were his Christian friends, various ministers and evangelists, and church members. And there wasn't just one person crying for help from this fire-enveloped structure. He saw and heard hundreds—no, thousands

—wailing desperately for assistance.

The upsetting dream awakened Joel with a start.

Praying for guidance, he started thumbing through his Bible. Glancing downward, he began to read from the book of Jude. Verse 23 shocked him. "And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire."

The veil was removed from Joel's lack of understanding. Certainly, he now saw himself as a spectator—a spectator instead of a witness in the Christian life.

With thousands of people in his own hometown on the broad way to destruction, yet he himself was standing idle in the face of their cries. Yes, he had found fault with those who had ignored the pleadings of a dying girl.

But now he saw the beam in his own eye. God impressed upon Joel a soul-searching thought: "Don't you see the many sinners who are crying out in despair? If you don't reach out, they will all come to sudden destruction. Do you care?"

Joel lay back in the bed. He promised God that he would strive to "save others with fear, pulling them out of the fire."

Pathway Pointers

Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education

YOU HAVE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE ABOUT LIFE AND GOD'S WORK. WHAT STEPS DID YOU TAKE TO DEVELOP THIS ATTITUDE WHEN YOU WERE A TEENAGER?

My mother is ninety-one years old. She has had the Holy Ghost for sixty-five years. She had twelve children; seven boys and three girls are still living. My father died thirty-five years ago trusting in God. Both had a very positive attitude, and we were taught that if anything was worth doing, it was worth doing right. Also, we were taught that where there is a will, there is a way. Dad always said that if we would obligate ourselves to God, then He would be obligated to take care of us. I was saved at the age of sixteen and began my ministry at the age of seventeen. It did not take me long to learn that if I wanted to be successful in helping people, I had to have a positive attitude.

AS YOU WERE GROWING UP HOW DID LOCAL CHURCH LEADERS HELP YOU TO MEET PERSONAL PROBLEMS?

My Sunday school teachers helped me greatly by showing an interest in my development as a Christian. One gave me a Bible which she had used and had marked special scriptures. Sister Head always seemed to know how to help me overcome difficulties. She would say to me, "The devil can howl and growl, but just remember, he cannot get over the blood of Jesus." Local church leaders can be a help to young people by being kind and showing interest in them.

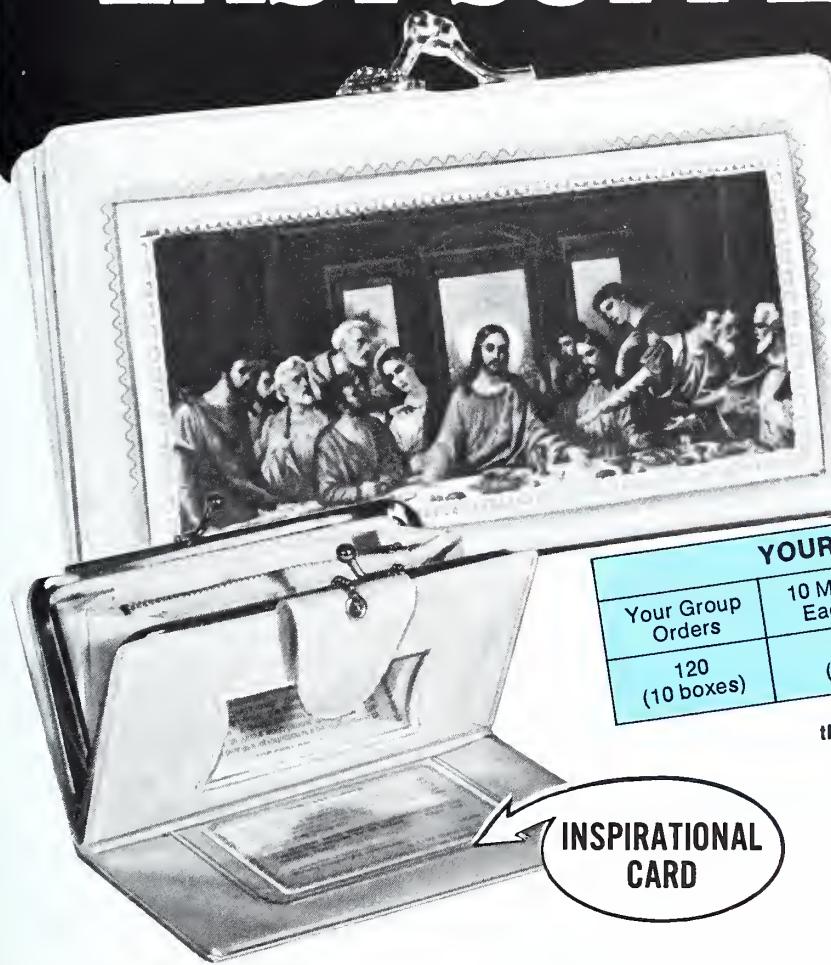
Floyd J. Timmerman is a church leader that always has a friendly smile and a warm handshake. He serves the Church of God as general secretary and treasurer. Brother Timmerman has been cited for his evangelistic fervor in organizing new churches, for utilizing different media to spread the gospel, and for fostering unity in Kingdom work. He has served as a pastor, state overseer, president of West Coast Bible College, and radio minister for "FORWARD IN FAITH." He has authored several books and is in constant demand as a speaker for special functions.

IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT GOAL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO ESTABLISH AND WORK TOWARD TODAY?

The greatest asset anyone can have is a sterling character. A well-developed Christian character is something to be desired above all the money, honor, and fame this world can bestow. Character is what a person actually is and not what he appears to be. Building a character is a process that requires skill. A life that is useful and happy is one that is built on a solid foundation. Life is a serious task which asks of each person his very best.



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MESSAGE FROM THE STARS

BY MARY LOUISE KITSEN

One spring day I was walking to the high school with two of my friends. The days were turning warmer, which gave everyone a feeling of new hope. The setting was so very innocent.

"What sign are you?" Rita asked me.

"What do you mean, what sign?" I asked her.

"I mean, what is your zodiac sign." Rita shook her head. She felt that she was far more worldly than I was, and she was absolutely right.

"I don't know," I answered. "Anyway, I'm a Christian."

"What does that have to do with anything," commented Amy. "I go to church, too, you know. I think it's a lot of fun to learn about the stars and what they can tell us."

Rita smiled. "Mary Lou, just tell me when you were born, and I'll tell you what your sign is."

"I was born on June 30," I answered. "But, Rita, I honestly don't care what sign I was born under. My pastor talked to us about this sort of thing once. Many people read their horoscopes thinking that it's just for fun and don't even realize that they are affected by what they have read."

"Your sign is Cancer," Rita said. We had reached the school, and I was glad. I really wasn't interested in the subject, but I didn't want to have a serious clash with my classmates about



it. I had been told by some of them in the past that I overdid my feelings about Christianity. I disagreed with that. Still, I hated to get involved with a subject like horoscopes and, thus, get into another hassle.

But when I started looking at the newspaper after supper that night, I found myself peeking at "Cancer" in the horoscope column! I told myself that I was just curious because my friends had been talking about the subject. The Cancer forecast was very general, but it did mention that I would have trouble with figures that day and to beware. I thought about that. I had had trouble with my math assignment that day. Figures! Then I was mad at myself. Christians trusted God for guidance—not horoscopes in newspapers!

I tried not to look at the horoscope in the newspapers for the next few days, but I just couldn't resist! I was amazed at how often something was really right! I knew I was getting hooked. I remembered Pastor Brown talking

about the devil's many ways of working on us to turn us away from Christ. But it seemed like such a small thing. How could just reading my horoscope harm me or make me less of a Christian?

Then came the night I almost let the devil influence me!

It was the evening that the youth organization at my church was to meet. Since I had reached the age to become a part of the youth activities, I had been active with the group. And I had a perfect attendance record. But on this particular night, things were very different.

"Mom," I said, "I'm not going to the youth meeting tonight."

My mother looked at me with surprise. "Why not?" she asked.

For a moment I said nothing. What was I going to say? I knew I couldn't tell Mom that I was afraid to go because my horoscope warned me not to go out after dark that night! I was afraid of my horoscope. It had me in its power. I lied to my mother, doing exactly what the devil wanted me to do.

"I have a headache, Mom," I said. "I just don't feel like going."

Mom asked me questions, took my temperature, and then had me to relax after taking something for my headache. All her concern made me feel guilty. Knowing I'd lied to her made me feel even worse. And knowing that a Christian shouldn't act the way I was acting made me feel

still worse, and I began to cry.

After washing my face with cold water, I went downstairs and told my folks that I felt well enough to go to the youth meeting if Dad would drive me over so I wouldn't be late. I was determined to fight the devil.

There I was, though—still not telling the truth, still inwardly worried about the horoscope. Dad got his coat and we left. He stopped across from the church. I got out and Dad asked me if I was all right. I said that I was and hurried to cross the street. My mind was so confused with the worry of what I had read and the lies I had told that I stepped into the street right in front of a car! I heard the brakes screech, and the car turned sharply to miss me. It did—barely.

The next few minutes are still hazy. The first thing I clearly remember was sitting in the church sobbing out the whole story—everything. I ended with, "It's all true. My horoscope was right."

"No, the horoscope had no meaning." The voice was the gentle voice of Pastor Brown. "You are a perfect example of what I was talking about when we discussed this sort of thing," he said. "People, like you, read their horoscopes and are affected by what they read. They forget Christianity and start living by the standards of the devil. You walked right in front of a car because you had your mind on your horoscope and your untruths. That horoscope came close to killing you!"

But I worry even now, after all these years, when I see young people reading books on signs, horoscopes, and the like. They might not be as fortunate as I was. The devil might win them. And I wish I could take all that reading material from them. We need messages from God—not from the stars! 

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2-IN-1

BIBLE PUZZLE

Lines one and two list some Bible people. The third line lists, in jumbled order, a possession of each person. Match each owner with his possession. The name of each person and his possession are also hidden in this array of letters. They move across, up and down, diagonally and in reverse in all directions. Circle an answer when you find one.

1. Noah 2. Jacob 3. Aaron 4. Naboth 5. David 6. Solomon 7. Widow 8. Joseph
9. Balaam 10. Elijah
a. vineyard b. mantle c. rod d. ass e. ladder f. coat g. ark h. mite i. harp j. temple

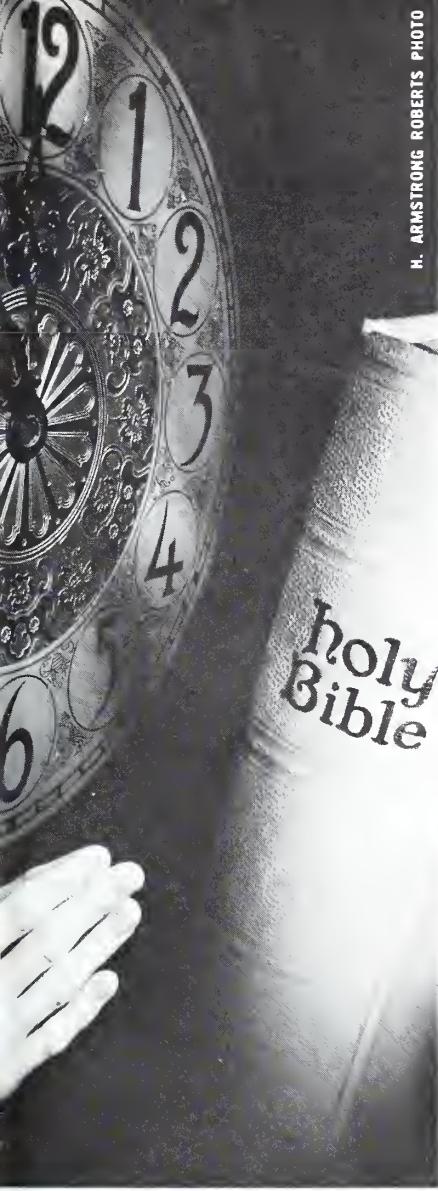
O	M	K	W	O	D	I	W	D	H
T	R	A	R	J	N	S	C	P	B
A	H	E	A	A	O	J	D	T	H
O	A	C	D	L	R	R	J	T	A
C	O	R	O	D	A	M	O	S	J
B	N	M	I	Y	A	B	S	L	I
A	O	V	E	N	A	L	E	P	L
N	A	N	T	N	V	T	P	R	E
D	I	L	R	O	I	H	H	A	D
V	E	L	P	M	E	T	J	H	L

THE LIGHTED PATHWAY

I walked a path so dark and dim,
Until one day a light shone in.
It lightened up the darkened place,
For it was as bright as the sun;
I knew my new path had begun.
During the evening of that day
I saw Someone coming my way;
His precious face and nail-scarred hands
Proved to me that this was the Man
Who brought to me light from above,
Who filled me with His wondrous love—
He became my Lighted Pathway.

—Dina LeRoy

ANSWERS: 1-g, 2-e, 3-c, 4-a, 5-i, 6-j, 7-h, 8-f, 9-d, 10-b.



H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS PHOTO

A NEW YEAR

Thank You, God, for another year
at You have seen us through.
Help us to see the old year out
the way You want us to.
And help us never to forget
at each day we owe You
our life, for home, for happiness,
and for the Bible true.
Help us, Lord, this coming year
Your Word to read each day,
see the things You do for us,
and not forget to pray.

—June Hawks
Essex Md., Church of God

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LIFE AFTER DEATH

BY MURIEL LARSON



"These things have I written unto you that believe in the name of the Son of God; that ye may have eternal life, and that ye may believe in the name of the Son of God" (1 John 5:13)

What happens when a Christian dies? Does he sleep in the grave until the Resurrection? Or does he go directly to be with the Lord? And what scripture can Christians use to prove that life continues after death?

Although I have often read the book of Luke, only recently it occurred to me that a wonderful revelation of life after death is found in Luke 9:28-31. This is one of the three God-inspired accounts given in the Gospels of the transfiguration of Jesus Christ on the mountain.

There Moses and Elijah (Elias) stood talking with Jesus about how He would soon be crucified in Jerusalem. Three witnesses saw Moses and Elijah with Jesus: Peter, John, and James. Moses had died approximately 1,480 years before this occasion. But he was definitely alive when he spoke with Jesus! Elijah had never died; he had been taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire more than 900 years before this occasion (2 Kings 2:11). During all that time he had obviously been a conscious person, living in heaven with God.

Another Old Testament person who apparently returned after his death was Samuel. Witchcraft and seeking to contact the dead are definitely forbidden in God's Word (Deuteronomy 18:10-12). But King Saul asked a woman with a familiar spirit to bring Samuel up from the grave; and she was very surprised when Samuel actually appeared (1 Samuel 28:8-19). There is good reason to believe that this actually was Samuel, for the prophecy he gave to Saul came true (1 Samuel 31:1-7). Samuel told King Saul, "To morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me" (1 Samuel 28:19). The next day Saul and his sons were killed in battle. They evidently joined

Samuel in the paradise side of Hades.

When Jesus was crucified, two thieves were hung with Him (Luke 23:39-43). One thief trusted in Jesus even while he was dying on a cross. "Lord," he said, "remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom" (v. 42).

Jesus answered, "Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise" (v. 43). So both Jesus and the thief died that day. They were not dead, however; their spirits were in paradise, as Jesus had said.

Jesus himself spoke of the life that immediately follows death in Luke 16:19-31 in His story about the beggar who went to "Abraham's bosom" (a synonymous term for *paradise*) and the rich man who went to hell. Even if this were a parable, as some claim, Jesus would not have misled us by telling us things about life after death that were not true! And the fact that Jesus spoke of Lazarus by name would seem to indicate that this was a true story about real people.

In this story Lazarus, the beggar, died and was carried into "Abraham's bosom" by angels. The rich man died and went to hell, where he was in torment.

Lost persons who do not have Christ as Savior still go to hell (John 3:18, 26). But according to the New Testament, Christians go to heaven to be with their risen Lord when they die (Ephesians 1:20).

One of the clearest scriptures that teaches that Christians go directly to be with the Lord after death is found in 2 Corinthians 5:6-8. Paul said that while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord. "We are confident . . . and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord" (v. 8).

Paul also said in Philippians 1:21, 23: "For to me to live is

Christ, and to die is gain. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better."

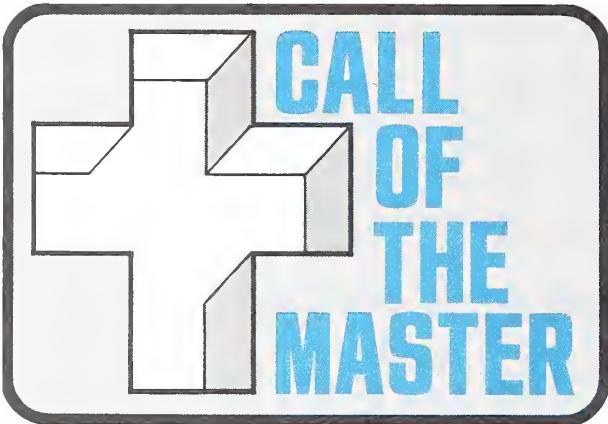
Paul, who wrote by inspiration of the Holy Spirit and who had had some amazing revelations given him by God, certainly would not have written this if he had not known that he would go directly to be with Christ when he died!

Actually, the wonderful truth is that eternal life begins for the Christian the moment he receives Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (1 John 5:13).

Let us share the good news of Christ with others so that they, too, may share in the hope we have. 



"WE LEARNED THAT SPIRITUAL MATURITY IS BEING PROMOTED TO JUNIOR HIGH!"



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BY BERNICE STOUT
WOODARD

THE BIG, BIG QUESTION

In your lifetime you face many, many questions: What is your name? Where do you live? Where do you attend school? What vocation in life are you choosing? And on and on they go. But the greatest question anyone will ever ask you is, "Where will you spend eternity?" What will be your answer? You alone can make the reply.

On whose terms will we meet God? It will certainly not be on our own righteousness. Neither our families nor our churches will be able to answer the question or to face God for us. We will meet God on the terms of His Holy Word.

Man's way leads to destruction. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 16:25). Man's ways are far from God; for He tells us, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways" (Isaiah 55:8).

God is holy, pure, righteous, and sinless. Sin separated us from God. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6).

Yes, we will meet God on the terms found in His Holy Word. "So then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

What are the wages of sin? The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Wages for sin are received in hell: "The wicked shall be turned into hell" (Psalm 9:17).

Jesus warns us to fear hell (Matthew 10:28). Do you know why? He knows how bad it is, and He knows that our punishment there will be fearful and eternal.

The story of the rich man and Lazarus tells us some things about hell. (See Luke 16.) The rich man in hell was in torment. He prayed, but it was too late. He sought help, but there was no help given. He was eternally separated from God, for there was a great gulf fixed between them.

But all men will not go to hell! There is a way that leads to life! In Matthew 7:13, 14, Jesus sums up the final abode of every human being. "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereto: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which

leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Which way are you going? Thank God, you do not have to go to hell. There is good news for you if you are on the road to destruction. Christ died that you might live eternally.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). We cannot get to heaven any other way. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8).

Salvation is a gift from God. By believing that Jesus died to save us from sin and by accepting His free gift of salvation, we gain admittance into heaven and we escape hell.

Everyone who comes to Christ will receive everlasting life (see John 6:37).

We may do one of two things when we are asked the big, big question: Where will you spend eternity? We may *receive* the gift of salvation, which gives everlasting life, or we may *refuse* God's wonderful gift.

"Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

WHAT
WILL
BE
YOUR
ANSWER
?

YOUTH OF NEWFOUNDLAND

"God's love and concern knows no geographic boundaries."

I am writing this at a large banquet for youth, convening in a meeting room of the Holiday Inn located in St. Johns, Newfoundland. The Quinton Sisters, an excellent local teenage trio, just finished singing beautiful Christ-exalting songs. I am here attending the annual convention of the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America (October 24-26, 1977).

New-found-land (they stress all syllables here) is a beautiful island 320 miles wide and 360 miles north to south. This island and Labrador make up a province of Canada. Being the easternmost point of North America, the island is 1,000 miles northeast of New York City and 875 miles east of Montreal. Claiming to be the cradle of white civilization in North America, it was explored by the Vikings in AD 1001. John Cabot claimed the "New Founde Isle" as Britain's first overseas colony in 1497.

Although the Church of God does not have a church in Newfoundland, the Pentecostal message has flourished here for

years, dating back to 1910. Of the half-million residents, about thirty-five thousand are Pentecostal. Most of them belong to the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland, which has approximately 135 congregations.

During one of the evening services, I sat by a newly converted young woman. She bubbled with enthusiastic worship. Living several miles from Newfoundland on a smaller island, she could reach her home only by ferry, traveling through waters that sometimes have icebergs.

The public school system of Newfoundland is unique. Instead of the government sponsoring the schools, as is generally done in the United States, denominations may do so if they desire. Three-fourths of the schools are operated by denominations and one-fourth by the government. About twenty-five percent of the public schools are managed by Pentecostal faiths.

Of course, the government has academic standards which a denom-

ination must maintain. However, all the teachers and administrators may be of the faith of the sponsoring denomination. The government heavily subsidizes the cost of operating the schools.

Being here, talking with young people, and learning something of their way of life, makes me bow my head in thankfulness to God for His saving and infilling power. I am reminded afresh that God's love and concern knows no geographic boundaries.



"STUDY to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15



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GUIDING YOUTH

TEEN TALENT



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Introducing
Teen **BIBLE**
Talent **DIVISION** *page 14*

LIGHTED Pathway

GUIDING YOUTH

February, 1978

Volume 49, No. 2

CONTENTS

- 3** Be Creative!
By Floyd D. Carey and Lamar Vest
- 4** Let's Make Music!
By Mike Baker
- 6** Anita Burroughs—a Talented Teen
By W. A. Davis
- 7** Teen Talent Creative Writing
By Carolyn Dirksen
- 8** Teen Talent Photo Album
- 10** Teen Talent—a Program of Development
By Danny Murray
- 11** Pathway Pointers
- 14** Involving Youth in the Word of God
By J. Ralph Brewer
- 16** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 17** Creative Art Talent
By Lucille Walker
- 18** Teen Talent Winners
- 20** Keynotes
By Mary S. Morris
- 22** The Eternal Promise
By Belinda Ford
- 23** The Spiritual Witness
By Eugene A. Rice, Jr.
- 24** Of Arrogance
By Cindy L. Sharp
- 26** Call of the Master
By Mary Ruth Stone
- 27** Desk of the Editor

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TEEN TALENT



•ART

•BIBLE

•MUSIC

•WRITING

A Program to Guide Youth in
Developing Their Talents for
the Glory of God

Contact your State Youth and Chris-
tian Education Director for information.

BE CREATIVE!



The Supreme Creator, in whose image we are made, has placed within each of us creative potential. God is pleased when we venture into new experiences which challenge us to exercise our creative potential.

Creativity is productivity. It is mind-stretching. It is awareness. It is advancing, growing, and discovering new heights of personal expression. There is creative potential in you. God wants you to use it.

The whole idea of Teen Talent is to help young people glorify God through the creative development of their talents. It is a program of involvement. It is a program of fulfillment. It is a program of creativity.

Teen Talent provides opportunities for Church of God teens to use their creative abilities in music, Bible, writing, and art. This special issue of the *Lighted Pathway* is designed to introduce you to each phase of the Teen Talent program. It is dedicated to some of the most creative persons in the world—Church of God young people.

Be creative. Participate in Teen Talent. 

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of Youth and Christian Education

Lamar Vest, Assistant General Director of Youth and Christian Education

LET'S MAKE MUSIC!

TEEN TALENT



Mike Baker

The Church of God believes in her young people! Youth today have an extraordinary capacity to learn, to develop skills, and to display leadership. Realizing this, the Church of God has taken positive steps of action, through the Teen Talent program, to guide youth in utilizing their abilities in their everyday lives and in the church for the glory of God.

Through local, regional, state, and national competition, Church of God youth are led in an exciting program of competition that sparks excitement about God's talent gifts and helps to cultivate qualities of character for adventurous Christian living. The Teen Talent Music Division is more than a competitive activity to determine who rates first, second, and third; It is a ministry of love and guidance to Church of God youth. However, competition is a vital factor in the program. Competition, coupled with love and guidance, is a strong force in maximizing a teenager's abilities and commitment of his talents to Christ.

Since its inception in 1961, Teen Talent has touched literally thousands of teenagers. Teen Talent has been the means of leading youth in recognizing, developing, and dedicating their musical abilities to the glory of God. Many of those who have been touched by Teen Talent in past years are now taking committed roles in the ministry of music in the Church of God.

The Music Division of Teen Talent seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. To recognize and involve Church of God teenagers who demonstrate talent, skill, and accomplishment in music—vocal, keyboard, and instrumental.
2. To motivate teenagers to utilize their musical abilities in worship and in the evangelism ministries of the church.
3. To encourage teenagers to consecrate their musical talents for the purpose of Christian witness.
4. To provide evaluative data on musical performances by Teen Talent participants which may serve as a guide for continued development of musical skills and talents for the glory of God.
5. To promote personal proficiency and growth in the areas of spiritual development, academic improvement, and performance of church music.
6. To lead teenagers into a living and personal relationship with God in Christ through participation in Teen Talent.
7. To encourage and strengthen consistent Christian living, directing youth toward Christian maturity and stabilization in the church through music.
8. To provide opportunities for teenagers to interact socially with youth in Christian fellowship through participation in Teen Talent.
9. To develop a sense of accomplishment and a sense of ministry and communication for Christ through music.
10. To foster in the youth of the Church of God an understanding of the nature and function of the ministry of music.

The levels of competition in the Music Division include the local, regional, state, and national levels. Competition is open to teenagers only and is confined to the performance of religious music.

In the past, competition has included six categories. However, Teen Talent has experienced such tremendous growth in recent years that, to keep pace with the times and to accommodate continued accelerated interest, the Music Division has been expanded from six categories to nine categories. Classification of the nine categories are as follows:

- I. Vocal Solo—One singer, male or female; accompanied or unaccompanied
- II. Vocal Ensemble—Two to twelve singers, including various combinations (male, female, or mixed) performing without conductor; either accompanied or unaccompanied
- III. Instrumental Solo—Keyboard (piano, organ, electric piano, harpsichord, celesta)

- IV. Instrumental Solo—Strings (violin family, guitar family, etc.; either bowed or plucked)
- V. Instrumental Solo—Woodwind (flute, piccolo, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon, etc.)
- VI. Instrumental Solo—Brass (trumpet, cornet, French horn, tuba, baritone, trombone, etc.)
- VII. Instrumental Solo—Percussion (definite and indefinite pitch instruments)
- VIII. Instrumental Ensemble—Two or more players with any combination of two or more instruments
- IX. Choir—Twelve or more singers performing with or without a conductor

You will notice that the Instrumental Solo—non-keyboard category has been expanded to four separate categories. Now, there may be four winners (one in each category). This will allow for greater interest and fairer competition for teenage instrumentalists.

For further information regarding the Music Division, consult the *Teen Talent Music Manual*, which may be obtained from the General Youth and Christian Education Department. The manual has been prepared to assist participants and sponsors in understanding the routine, rules, and methods of adjudication in the Music Division. The manual—which discusses performance suggestions, definition of terms, adjudication procedure and sheets, and personal tips—should be read and studied carefully.

Teen Talent has become a distinctive force in helping Church of God teenagers to discover, to develop, and to dedicate their talents for the glory of God. God has given each of us a measure of talent. This talent is given to us in the germ. We are commanded to unfold and develop our talents by instruction and cultivation. The Apostle Paul says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Timothy 2:15).

The musical enunciations presented in Teen Talent should always be dedicated to the Master. The musical performances of Teen Talent contestants must be the best that they can offer. Those who listen can be led, through music, to a greater knowledge of Christ. Whether a winner or not, each participant's musical offering is pleasing to God. All teenage participants must generate the power of the Holy Spirit to become a greater instrument of praise to their Creator.

What's it all about? Twentieth-century Christian youth, who are being challenged to reach their fullest potential and to express themselves constructively for the glory of God! 

Mike Baker is the National Teen Talent Music Competition Coordinator

Anita Burroughs— A Talented Teen

W.A. Davis

She's friendly, attractive, talented, intelligent, and thoroughly Christian. Anita Burroughs is a seventeen-year-old senior at Laurens High School in South Carolina.

Anita is an exceptional young lady who has strong feelings about God and about her relationship with other people. You would enjoy meeting her.

She has a hobby shared by few teenage girls—she plays the harp. When she was in the fourth grade, Anita heard and saw her first orchestra. It was a special presentation for young people, and Anita was captivated by the harp.

After the program Anita's mother, who is an excellent musician in her own right, made arrangements to purchase a harp. It took six months for the harp to arrive, since most of the parts had to be made by hand.

Anita was twelve years old when she began taking harp lessons. She now travels to Auburn, Alabama, once a month to take lessons from a retired college music teacher who has played the harp with orchestras of national renown.

Anita is a member of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Harp Society; she performs with the Carolina Youth Symphony, and plays second chair with the Greenville Symphony.



Anita Burroughs

Practicing is not the easiest thing for Anita to do. It's not that she finds it difficult—it's just time-consuming; and Anita has a busy life without considering her music. "I practice till I feel satisfied with what I have done," she said. "I usually practice an hour a day, and on weekends I do more." She plays an active role in the church where her father, the Reverend Roy Burroughs, is minister. Anita teaches grades 1-3 in Sunday school and is president of her Wednesday night Family Training Hour group. She is substitute pianist at church and also plays the flute.

During the summer months

Anita usually works as a lifeguard at church camp, but this summer she was chosen as one of the representatives to attend Palmetto Girls State. She was also one of eight hundred applicants screened to attend Governor's School and was one of the 275 chosen to participate in this six weeks' school held at the college in Charleston, South Carolina. Selections for the Governor's School were made on the basis of scholarship and leadership and the recommendation of an individual's school.

"I loved it," Anita said. "It was such a unique experience—socially active, yet academically challenging. It was such a rewarding summer. You don't usually meet so many talented people at one time."

Anita talks about all the talented young people she met, while they are probably talking about her. She gave six performances on her harp while at Charleston. The most exciting was her solo performance for Governor Edwards at a candlelight dinner held in his honor. While in Charleston she was selected secretary of the Governor's Youth Advisory Council. She was also presented the superlative award for the most gifted and talented girl at the 1977 Governor's School. After meeting her, one understands why. ☺

TEEN TALENT CREATIVE WRITING

Carolyn Dirksen

"Sweet, Honey." My mother handed me back the little notebook. "Is that all?" I hadn't expected more, but still I was hurt. It was the best story I had ever written. I was glad to be referred to another reader, and my sister was appreciative of my writing. Still, there was a familiar sense of being let down that I always felt when I finished a story. An idea would come to me, and I would hole up with my notebook for hours, crafting the thought into words. At the moment of completion I would be exhilarated, charged with the excitement of creation; but even then I knew that writing was communication and that the story's erection was meaningless unless it had readers.

As months passed, I wrote in my little book less and less until it became a sort of memento of a bygone period like my outgrown tennis dress and the long dried-up oil paints. Nevertheless, I never looked at it without a sense of loss, a sense that something valuable could have blossomed from the unplanted seeds it contained.

When I was invited to help develop the Creative Writing Division for Teen Talent, images sprang to mind of myself as that solitary little figure filling her notebook with stories that almost no one would read. I thought that there must be hundreds of young people who wanted to write, who wanted to communicate through poetry, fiction, drama, and articles—and I was right.

The response to the Creative Writing Division for Teen Talent, I have been involved in its most exciting aspects. Of course, winning becomes important in any contest, but—win or lose—you can find more in the Creative Writing Division than competition. First, it is an outlet for you as a writer. It lets you know that someone cares about your writing and thinks that it is important enough to work on. Second, participation in the program will help you develop your writing in general and specifically about each of the categories in the competition. Furthermore, each entry is evaluated by people who are trained to give constructive suggestions, and every entrant receives a written response pointing out strengths and weaknesses.

Third, you will have a chance to have your entry published, even if you don't win.

As an English teacher at Lee College, I have met several past participants and have had them in my classes. Many of them have pursued English majors in preparation for writing careers or for teaching writing. Each time I meet a former participant, I am gratified at the impact the program has had in recognizing writing as a talent, in encouraging young people in the church to develop their writing skills, and in providing recognition for those who are interested in communicating Christianity through the written word. ☺

Carolyn Dirksen is the Teen Talent Creative Writing Coordinator



TEEN TALENT

BE
CREATIVE!

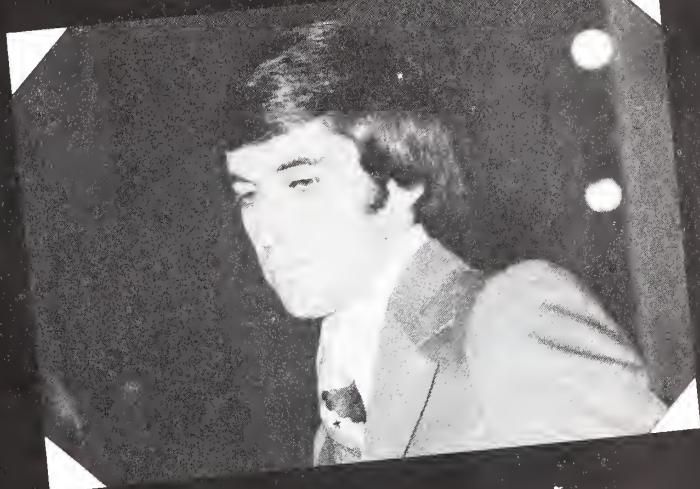
TEEN TALENT

PHOTO ALBUM





One of the judges



Mike Braker, competition
coordinator



Part of the audience



Raymond Pettitt,
Stage Coordinator



another group performance



Time to go home

TEEN TALENT



A Program of Development

Danny Murray

Why should you, as a youth leader, encourage Teen Talent participation? Why should you, as a teenager, want to be a part of this program? The best answer is simply because Teen Talent has proven to be one of the great contributors to the leadership of Church of God music today.

Across the nation we can cite examples of teens who have won top honors, some who were runners-up, and still others who simply were participants in the program, all having continued to develop their talents for use within Church of God music and educational programs. Many ministers of music, as well as youth ministers, remember this program as their introduction to music within our denomination. Such is the case of the following Church of God youth and music ministers: Jim Phillips, Princeton Pike Church in Hamilton, Ohio; Sharon Morgan, West Lakeland Church in Lakeland, Florida; Steve Holder, North Cleveland Church in Cleveland, Tennessee; Tony Holley, West Columbia Church in Columbia, South

Carolina; Bob Laughlin, Mt. Paran Church in Atlanta, Georgia; Randy Weeks, Cottage Hill Church in Mobile, Alabama; David Miles in Mount Airy, North Carolina; and Walter Mauldin, Westmore Church in Cleveland, Tennessee. These are just a few examples of Teen Talent musicians involved today in church music leadership.

The same soloists, ministers of music, instrumentalists, and accompanists who are today's leaders in our church music programs were yesterday's timid teens who feared that they would never make it through their "Teen Day" competition performance. We recognize that Teen Talent has served as a successful beginning for many young musicians.

Teen Talent has several objectives which determine its guidelines. One such objective seeks to accomplish an educational function through the talent competition. Recent changes, such as the required choral arrangement for all choirs, have generated much interest in young Church of God musicians to learn more

about music. Even though some choirs have felt handicapped by being given a required arrangement to learn, they soon discover how well their choir members can read, understand, and enjoy this music. Many groups have adopted this approach to learning their entire repertoire. It is evident that an educational process, as well as an enjoyable musical and worshipful experience, can all be a part of Teen Talent.

Many Teen Talent participants continue on to study music at one of our four church colleges. Currently there are 127 students at Lee College whose major area of study is music. Over 75 percent of these have at some time participated in the Teen Talent program prior to attending college. Each year the performance organizations on campus (Lee Singers, Ladies of Lee, Campus Choir, and the Lee Players) are made up of individuals who have gained experience through Teen Talent.

Many Teen Talent musicians receive recognition outside our own church program. Recently the 1976 vocal solo winner, Lynn Golden, experienced success in the vocal education field. The National Association of Teachers of Singing awarded Miss Golden first place in the Women's Solo competition among college freshmen in the nation's Mid-South Division. Lynn

Continued on page 25



Delton Alford is vice-president of Lee College. He has been at Lee for the past fifteen years and has served as the chairman of the Department of Music, dean of the Division of Arts and Sciences, and dean of the college. In 1963, he organized the world-renowned Lee Singers. The Lee Singers witness in song and testimony, and they have been effective ambassadors for the Church of God.

HOW HAS THE TEEN TALENT MUSICAL PROGRAM MOTIVATED YOUNG PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE AND DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS FOR THE GLORY OF GOD?

I believe the first stimulus has been simply to convince many Church of God young people throughout the United States that our church—and specifically the Youth and Christian Education Department—is truly interested in them. The Teen Talent program has been one area where our young people have been greatly encouraged to study, to work hard, and to dedicate themselves so that they can be used of the Lord in a significant way. Because of Teen Talent, our young people are being used of God, and their abilities and talents are recognized as important to the development of the church and its various ministries.

One of the most fundamental and important ministries of the church is ministry through music. Church of God young people have been and will continue to be interested in making a contribution to this ministry. Through their efforts the church will be edified, the members of the body will continue to worship Him in Spirit and in truth, and our young people will be used of God to spread the gospel throughout these United States through the medium of music.

Pathway Pointers

Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of Youth and Christian Education

IN WHAT WAYS HAS INVOLVEMENT IN TEEN TALENT PROVIDED INSIGHT FOR YOUTH IN LIVING A BALANCED AND FULFILLING LIFE?

First, the discipline of preparation and the commitment to development of excellence allow for development and growth, not only in an individual sense but also in a sense of cooperation with other young people. Second, the joy of accomplishment, as well as the occasional disappointment that comes when one has not achieved at the level which was expected, is a very helpful way for young people to learn about the mature Christian life.

Finally, I would point out that the opportunity to share talents and abilities is most beneficial. It allows our young people to communicate one with another and to understand one another's problems, and to work with one another in developing a useful ministry of music in the church.



Dr. Delton Alford

SHARE WITH US WHY YOU ENCOURAGE TEENS TO PARTICIPATE IN TEEN TALENT.

I would like to point out some of my principal reasons for encouraging involvement. First, the young person has an occasion to use his talents and abilities directly in the Lord's service. Second, he has a constant opportunity to develop his abilities and to hone his skills so that he can be a more useful musician—not just in the church, but in all that he does in life. Third, he has a wonderful opportunity to share with others who have similar goals, similar backgrounds, and similar interests; and to learn from others and to mature in his relationship with others.

Fourth, the demands of competition and the desire for success allow the young person the privilege of learning how to balance his own personal desires with the realities of musical preparation.

Then finally, I would say that participation in Teen Talent provides one with an opportunity to grow spiritually—an opportunity that ought not to be passed over lightly. If a young person becomes involved in the Teen Talent program sincerely and openly, he will receive great spiritual, as well as musical, rewards.

TEEN TALENT MATERIALS



MUSIC MANUAL

The *Teen Talent Music Manual* provides instructional material concerning the total spectrum of the program. Each category is explained in depth with regard to policies, preparation for performance, performance, and definition of terms used in scoring. Sample copies of scoring sheets are also included.

CHORAL ARRANGEMENT

The required song, an original composition by National Teen Talent Coordinator Mike Baker, is entitled "The Son of God Has Passed This Way." The special arrangement is contained in an attractive 7-by-10-inch, twelve-page, two-color booklet. A minimum of twenty copies must be ordered.

CHORAL ARRANGEMENT CASSETTE

A youth choir sings "The Son of God Has Passed This Way" on the cassette exactly as it is written. A step-by-step procedure in guiding a youth choir in learning it and in singing it in competition is given.

PIANO ARRANGEMENT BOOK AND CASSETTE

Piano Stylings of Myrna Alford, featuring the music of Lanny Wolfe, contains selections for all levels of musical competency. The arrangements in this book are ideal for Teen Talent piano contestants. A cassette tape of the stylings exactly as they are written is also available.

PARTICIPATION PATCH

The red, white, and blue, Swiss-embroidered Teen Talent participation patch will be a treasured keepsake for contestants. It will identify youth who are using their talents for the glory of God.

BIBLE MANUAL

The new *Teen Talent Bible Manual* has been pre-

pared to assist participants and coaches in understanding the routine, rules, and methods of judging in the Teen Talent Bible Division. The manual discusses involvement suggestions, definition of terms, judging procedure, scoring sheets, and personal tips. It is a must for all who plan to enter Teen Talent Bible competition.

BIBLE QUIZZING COMPETITION STUDY GUIDE

This study guide is designed for participants and team coaches involved in Bible quizzing. Approximately six hundred questions are contained in the study guide under five subject areas: Bible facts (book of Acts), Bible doctrine, Church of God distinctives, practical Christian living, and world evangelism. These five subject areas will provide a valuable learning experience for Bible quiz participants, as well as form the basic structure for future Bible quiz programs. The official questions for each level of competition (regional, state, and national) will be taken from the questions contained in the manual.

CREATIVE WRITING MANUAL

The *Teen Talent Creative Writing Manual* is designed to prepare young writers for entering the Creative Writing competition. It gives information about what creative writing is and how one gets started. It also contains complete details on the entrance and judging procedures of this Teen Talent division.

CREATIVE ART BROCHURE

This brochure contains the Teen Talent Creative Art statement of purpose, program information, participation requirements, and the procedure for judging. It also contains a definition of each of the six creative art categories.



**BE
CREATIVE!**

TEEN TALENT

Participation Materials Order Form

Church of God Youth and Christian Education
 Keith at 25th, N.W., Cleveland, Tennessee 37311

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

Quantity	Description	Price	Total
	Music Manual	\$1.00 each	
	Choral Arrangement	Pkg. of 20—\$7.00 Pkg. of 30—\$10.00 Each additional copy .50	
	Choral Arrangement Cassette	\$3.00 each	
	Piano Arrangement Book	\$2.95	
	Piano Arrangement Cassette	\$6.98	
	Participation Patch	\$1.00	
	Bible Manual	\$1.00	
	Bible Quizzing Competition Study Guide	\$2.00	
	Writing Manual	\$1.00	
	Art Brochure	.10	

TOTAL

Add 10% for postage and handling

TOTAL

Send check with order

INVOLVING YOUTH

J. Ralph Brewer /

Administrative Assistant, General Department of Youth and Christian

Someone has said, "The Bible is God's letter to us. It is signed with love, mailed at sunrise, and delivered for us to read today." The eternal Word of God is the foundation stone of the Christian faith. Apart from the truth as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, we have no understanding of God, no revelation of His will for mankind, and no reason or basis for personal faith in spiritual values.

Since its beginning, Word-emphasis has been the governing principle of the Church of God. The first principle accepted by the Church of God was that we accept the whole Bible rightly divided.

To underscore and reinforce this important principle of the Church of God, the General Department of Youth and Christian Education has released a new division of Teen Talent for 1978. In addition to Music, Art, and Creative Writing, a Bible Division is being added.

The Bible Division of Teen Talent is designed to give recognition to Church of God young people who have devoted themselves to a study of God's Word. It offers opportunity to acquire Bible knowledge, to sharpen skills in using the Scriptures, and to develop creativity in Bible teaching. With this general purpose in mind, the Bible Division of Teen Talent seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. To promote involvement of youth in the life of God's church.

2. To stimulate Bible study and Bible reading as a normal pattern of Christian living.
3. To discover and to develop creative and capable teachers of God's Word.
4. To encourage the development of "Word habit," with a healthy regard for both the theological and the practical application of Bible principles.
5. To emphasize the value of oral and public reading of the Bible.
6. To provide opportunity for interaction through the process of competitive Christian encounter.
7. To perpetuate the Bible as the textbook of the church.

There are three categories in the Teen Talent Bible Division—Bible reading, Bible teaching, and Bible quizzing.

1. Bible Reading

Public Bible reading was an important element in the Old Testament (Joshua 8:34, 35; Nehemiah 8:8) and in the New Testament (Luke 4:16). Bible reading should also be a vital part of every worship service today. The sermon speaks as man to man; prayer speaks as man to God; but Bible reading speaks as God to man.

The Bible reading category is designed to emphasize the value of public Bible reading as a part of Christian worship and to guide teenagers in developing reading skills and

GREEN TEAM



2

3

RED TEAM



THE WORD OF GOD

PECT TEAM



effectiveness. In this category, a participant reads a Scripture passage (approximately twenty verses) selected from the official Bible reading list.

2. *Bible Teaching*

Along with preaching, there is nothing more important than teaching God's Word. God has chosen the medium of preaching and teaching to communicate His plan of salvation and eternal life. The Bible teaching category is designed to emphasize the importance of teaching and to provide a plan for teenagers to be involved in it. In the Bible teaching category the participant prepares and presents an original Bible lesson using some type of teaching aid. The lesson must be not less than five minutes and not more than ten minutes in length.

3. *Bible Quizzing*

The Bible quizzing category is designed for team participation. The nature and function of Bible quizzing offers teenagers opportunities for personal involvement, spiritual development, and participation in competition that is challenging and fulfilling. A quiz team consists of an adult coach and from three to five participants from a local youth group (three starting quizzers and two substitutes). The function of the coach is to meet

regularly with the team to direct them in Bible study, in practice quizzes, and in preparation for competition. All questions can be answered directly from the Scriptures with no need for interpretation.

The questions for the Bible quizzing category for 1978 will cover five basic areas: Bible facts (book of Acts), Bible doctrine, Church of God distinctives, practical Christian living, and world evangelism.

For times like these, God's eternal Word is a priceless possession and its value to Christian living is without measure. Through the all-new Teen Talent Bible Division, young people will be encouraged to get involved in the Word of God—to read its message, to study its sacred content, and to apply its life-giving principles to everyday experiences. As a result of this program, we believe young people will develop a lasting appreciation for God's Book, and its joys and blessings will be experienced down through the years.

Teenage friend, plan now to get involved in the 1978 Teen Talent Bible Division. You will be glad you did, and your life will be richer as a result.

For further information regarding Teen Talent, contact your state director or write to the General Department of Youth and Christian Education. 

ACTION NEWS & VIEWS

ALABAMA VOLUNTEER

Connie Willis of Midfield (Birmingham), Alabama, is beginning a two-year term of service as a volunteer in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. She is serving with Comprehensive Community Service as resident worker in a home for mentally retarded children.

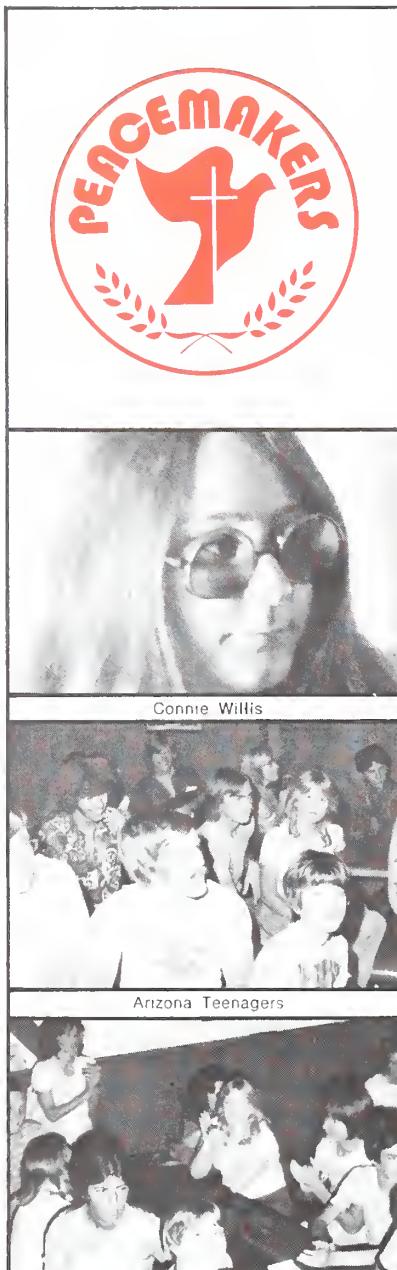
Connie received a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Lee College in Cleveland, Tennessee, in May 1977. She is a member of the North Cleveland Church of God in Cleveland, Tennessee. Her parents are Mason S. and Viola C. Willis, members of the Midfield Church of God in Midfield, Alabama.

TYLER, TEXAS, CAMPING RETREAT

Following the National Youth Emphasis Program, the Tyler, Texas, Church of God held a camping retreat for its youth with approximately twenty-five persons in attendance. In addition to times of relaxation and fellowship, sessions were held setting forth the theme "Living by the Word." Sessions were designed to create interest in the Bible and to help teens discover a scriptural life-style.

The four areas covered at the retreat were: Living by the Word—a Life-style; Living by the Word—a Witness; Living by the Word—the Benefits; Living by the Word—How? Instructional materials were authored by O. W. Polen and provided through the Church of God General Department of Youth and Christian Education.

One youth eagerly commented: "I enjoyed the sessions because of the desire everyone showed in



learning more about the Word of God."

We at Tyler are thankful that the Church of God is establishing programs to encourage and promote our youth in their growth for Christ.

—Dan Black, Tyler Christian Education Director

MISSOURI YOUTH ON THE MOVE

We want you to know that the Festus Church of God teens are on the move. In a sixteen-day period, we have raised \$340.

First, we made \$100 in an auction on October 28. Then, on November 10 and 11, we raised \$240 in a rock-a-thon. Now we are planning a door-to-door witnessing campaign.

God is moving in our church!

—Dennis and Belinda West
Festus Teen Sponsors

ARIZONA TEENAGERS ARE SASSY!

Pictured at left are some very SASSY TEENS. They are proud of being this way and proudly display bumper stickers that read "I'M SASSY." They invite and encourage other teens to be SASSY, too!

Once a month, on a Saturday afternoon, anywhere from 60 to 125 teens meet at Aurileo's Pizza Restaurant in Scottsdale, Arizona, to be real SASSY.

The restaurant owner gives them their pizza free. They sing, share testimonies, pray, and have fellowship.

It has been happening over a year now. You see, to them, being SASSY means: "Saturday Afternoon Soul Searching Youth!" Mike Monsanto, a Christian businessman, and Ken Spinada, the restaurant owner, pay for the pizza. The 44th Street Church of God, where Donald N. Logan is pastor, promotes and provides the transportation.

Why don't you get SASSY in your town?—J. David (Jim) Stephens, Arizona State Youth and Christian Education Director

CREATIVE ART TALENT



Hood

Kirkland

Brumley

Chord

Stewart

Potter

Lipscomb

Valcarcel

Melendez

I would like to introduce you to several competent artists of the Church of God. Ron Hood and Lonzo Kirkland comprise the graphic division of the Public Relations Department of our church. Also, at the Church of God Publishing House we have a well-staffed Art Department where Ledarral Brumley is director. The staff includes Joyce Chord (secretary and artist), Chloe Stewart, Johnny Potter, Byron Lipscomb, Michael Valcarcel, and Bill Melendez.

The Department of Youth and Christian Education believes it is most fitting and urgent that young artists be recognized and encouraged in the development of their talents toward Kingdom ministry.

TEEN TALENT CREATIVE ART PROGRAM

The Creative Art Division of Teen Talent is designed to recognize Church of God young people who display talent, skill, and accomplishment in art in six categories—ceramics, graphics, painting, photography, sculpture, and textiles. Each contestant must be a teenager between the ages of thirteen and twenty. The first level of entry is the state level, directed by the State Director of

Youth and Christian Education. Winners at the state level advance to the national level.

A contestant may submit entries in two categories, but may be a national winner in only one category. Each entry must be the original work of the contestant; no reproductions are accepted.

God gives talent to be developed—to be used for His glory. The failure of the man in the Bible who had only one talent was not in the fact that he had only one talent but that he failed to develop that one talent and use it.

The Teen Talent program is designed not only to develop talented youth but also to involve them in God's work for His glory.

Participation in Teen Talent develops a spirit of cooperation, discipline, appreciation of the talents of others, attitudes of fairness, recognition of responsibility, and many other character-building qualities.

An AIM brochure may be obtained from the state director or from the General Department. It suggests methods and media in each category of competition. The AIM brochure also gives information as to how the entries will be judged.

State winners will be honored at state levels. They will receive a certificate of achievement and will be eligible to enter national competition.

National winners will be announced and presented trophies at the Teen Talent Awards Activity at the General Assembly. They may also be featured in a special issue of the *Lighted Pathway*.

Please write to your state director or to the General Department for more information. State entries should be submitted by March 1 and national entries by June 1. Get involved now. ☺

77 WINNERS

MUSIC

Year	Vocal Solo	Instrumental Solo Keyboard	Instrumental Solo Nonkeyboard	Instrumental Ensemble	Vocal Ensemble	Choir
1962	Mary Ann Orndorff Arizona	Charles Novelle Virginia		(Song Leading) Billie Roberts Florida		Soddy Tennessee
1964	Rita Coleman Ohio	Phillip Cook Alabama		(Song Leading) John Miller Florida	Joy Bells North Carolina	Cleveland (South) Tennessee
1966	Randy Weeks Alabama	Sharon Abbott Delaware		Trombone Quartet Ft. Myers, Florida	Ft. Myers Trio Florida	Cleveland (North) Tennessee
1968	Cynthia Clements Georgia	Jan Pearson Florida		South Lenoir Band North Carolina	North Cleveland Trio Tennessee	Fairborn Ohio
1970	Gay Pettyjohn Tennessee	Diane Jeffords Georgia	Edward Starns Georgia	Hialeah Brass Ensemble Florida	Mosinee Trio Wisconsin	Cleveland (Westmore) Tennessee
1972	Jimmy Phillips Tennessee	Phillip Thomas Florida	Trunicia Hamby Georgia	Pelzer Ensemble South Carolina	Lenoir City Trio Tennessee	Crichton Alabama
1974	Teresa Lefevres Alabama	Darrell Mitchell North Carolina	David Miles North Carolina	Maranatha Florida	Gap Hill Teen Trio South Carolina	Charleston (West Ashley) South Carolina
1976	Lynn Golden Tennessee	Yvonne Bell Tennessee	Mike Smith Northern California	Westmore Ensemble Tennessee	Joy Bells North Carolina	Mableton Youth Choir North Georgia

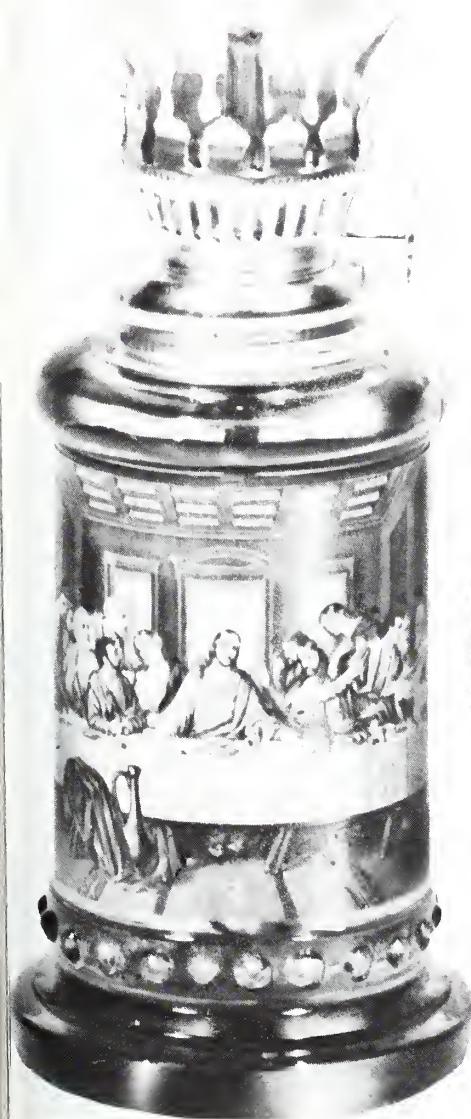
ART

Year	Photography	Painting	Textiles	Ceramics	Graphics	Sculpture
1972	Wally Ambrose Tennessee	Kathy Plawman Ohio	Joan Thomas Tennessee	Judy Kelly Tennessee	Sue Raszler North Dakota	Crystal Hancock South Carolina
1974	Debbie Benker Tennessee	Elaine Hammonds Hawaii	Anita Lint Michigan	Deanna Davidson Montana	Carolyn Woodard Mississippi	Wallace Brown Indiana
1976	John Music Michigan	John Vieck North Dakota	Patti Root Kentucky	Jim Hull Pennsylvania	Elaine Ponce Hawaii	Janice Storey Indiana

WAITING

Year	Short Stories (Fiction)	Articles and Essays (Nonfiction)	Plays and Skits (Fiction & Nonfiction)	Poetry
1974	Annette Hale Tennessee	Polly D'Anne Heil Texas	Marcene Montz Florida	Patty Lynn Hall Maryland
1976	Belinda Ford Florida	Cindy L. Sharp Virginia	Mark Stauffer Pennsylvania	Eugene A. Rice, Jr. Alabama

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Keynotes

Mary Morris is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland in Princess Anne. Her husband, Philip, pastors the Church of God there.

TEEN TALENT



TEEN TALENT MUSICAL TIPS—II

After preparing yourself intellectually for participation in a competition such as Teen Talent (as outlined in the last KEYNOTES), you should select your music to be performed. This is one of the most difficult and crucial areas in your preparation.

Various criteria in the selection of music are listed on page 18 of *Teen Talent Music Manual*, by Mike Baker. One criterion that is very important is the fourth one: selecting music with the performing ability of the performer(s) in mind. Another criterion to remember is to select music in the style that you like and perform best. Some participants like to select music in one style and arrange it in medley fashion if they have more than one song represented. Others like to perform only one song in one style. Some like to select one song and vary it in as many different ways or styles as is feasible. Regardless of how you choose to

present your music, it should always reflect good musical taste (what sounds good). If you don't know what sounds good, then develop this musical judgment by listening to a lot of excellent recordings, tapes, or "live" performances of musicians who perform in your style(s). Much can be learned by listening and observing.

The most difficult part of your preparation comes next—*practice!* If you have been successful in your intellectual preparation, selection, and arrangement of your music but have failed to practice as you should, then you will probably not perform your best in the competition. Every facet of your performance must be excellent if it is to be judged a superior performance. Master every portion of the music—rhythm, pitch, volume control, tone production, interpretation, and expression—all the subtleties and nuances that make a per-

formance superior musically. You may secure help in these areas from parents, friends, and teachers; but if you do not know how to listen for these aspects yourself, you are handicapped as a performer. For example, listen to other excellent musicians to get an idea how an expressive performance should sound. Develop the sound you want to achieve in your "inner musical ear," then try to achieve it in practice.

Lastly, perform before others before you perform in the competition. Learning to perform under pressure is most beneficial. Hopefully, you will make most of your mistakes in your pre-competition performances, and you will be accustomed to performing before others and maintaining your control by competition time. Keep practicing right up to competition time. An Arabian proverb says, "What comes with ease goes with ease."

Remember that everyone can't be "the" winner in Teen Talent. But everyone who participates is "a" winner, for Teen Talent provides you with an opportunity to grow musically! ☺



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THE ETERNAL PROMISE

Belinda Ford / Florida

Teen Talent National Winner—Short Stories

The man, otherwise known as 235-762, walked hesitatingly by the passing crowds of people. He was a middle-aged man with misty, grey eyes that he squinted, hoping to protect them from the contaminated air that made them burn. His skin appeared chalky white as a result of staying under the protection of air-conditioned, windowless buildings. His lips were held tightly together in a hard, stern line. The faint wrinkles around his face revealed that he had laughed—at a time when smiles were a common expression of communication. But as the years had progressed and the world of machinery had advanced, people had also changed. The evidence showed in the cold, expressionless faces that were masked in clear, plastic gas filters.

He glanced at his watch. He realized that it was an hour before curfew. He stopped before the station to wait for the monorail that usually transported him home after work. He drew out his token and nervously tossed it up into the air and let it fall back into his hand. He felt strangely odd. It seemed as though an unknown force, far more powerful than he had ever felt, was possessing him. He put the token back into his pocket and began walking away from the station.

For some reason he felt compelled to walk home—something he rarely did, because of the high crime rate. He began to



Belinda Ford

walk on a route which led through the ruins of the older part of the city. He had been there only once or twice before,

but he well remembered the eerie feeling that the crumbling city had given him. As he approached the city, he could see the old

buildings looming up against the horizon. The sun would be setting in less than an hour. He hurried through the rusty iron gates that seemed to groan with age.

He began walking through the deserted streets that had once been main transportation routes for cars, an invention of the past that had long since been replaced by the smog-free monorail. He stared in awe at the countless, unlit neon signs which once had glowed with a brightness that could pierce through the blackest night. On a bank building among the tall skyscrapers, he could see the large face of a clock with its hands frozen with time, never to move again. In the distance he could see peeling campaign billboards which boasted of promises that were never filled. Graffiti of profanity and rebellion marked the walls of every building.

Eventually he saw the iron gates that led out of the city. He walked a little faster, relieved at the thought of leaving the city of yesteryear.

But suddenly the lonely shadows of the skyscrapers seemed to close in on him. He clutched at his mask desperately in an attempt to loosen the tightening fear that gripped his throat and seemed to squeeze the very breath of life out of him. He wanted to run back to the security of the present—but a power, stronger than his human will, restrained him. This same power gently urged him to turn back to a desolate building he had overlooked. As he walked toward the building he felt more relaxed, even though his brow was drenched in perspiration.

The building looked much like the others he had seen. But after he walked in, he sensed that the room held a strange quality that made it totally different from any other he had seen. The first thing his eyes noticed were the

beautiful stained-glass windows. Even though they had been broken by vandals, they added an air of serenity to the sanctuary. He wiped the dust from one of the pews and sat down. After awhile he became aware that he had been in the same place many years ago. Out of the silence he began to hear the faint sounds of voices softly singing. He couldn't remember where.

As the singing continued, he kept searching his memory. But for what? Something that was lost? His eyes swept the room again and he suddenly remembered that it had been a place where he had come as an innocent, trusting child. He had prayed to an invisible God that had answered prayers many, many years ago. He dropped to his knees, and his tears began to flow like a fountain of water that had sprung from a dry desert.

Suddenly the singing ceased and a voice within began to speak. It wasn't an audible voice, but the reality of it could not be denied. It spoke of love, hope, and an eternal promise. He became aware of a Presence, and he no longer felt alone. He had finally found the treasure he had been unconsciously searching for—something that had been buried deep in the sands of modernization and progress. He rejoiced at the thought of keeping it forever and of sharing it with the world. He slowly arose and walked toward the door.

As he walked out, a soft ray of light shining through the stained-glass windows touched him. He stepped into the evening light and looked up into the skies. To his amazement he saw that the sun was no longer concealed by the dark mist but was now shining brightly. He smiled and his countenance took on a new glow. He walked through the gates, unafraid. The eternal promise burned within him. 

THE SPIRITUAL WITNESS

Eugene A. Alice, Jr.

Alabama

Teen Talent National Winner—Poetry

When I behold the sea, the sky, the land,
How well I know . . .
How well I understand . . .
That God's omniscience is
Incomprehensible to man;
That natural man
Can never understand
Creative power,
Universality,
God's gift of everlasting life,
Man's destiny,
Salvation for the lost,
The triune plan.
But, Breath of Life . . .
God's great Spirit-Gift
Does waft my senses
Far beyond the carnal
Lift of man.
Then I and Spirit,
Walking hand in hand,
Do bridge the gap of all man's vanity
And walk with God
In Christ's humanity.
I, prostrate there in meek humility,
Through faith,
Am lifted far beyond natural reality;
Am, by His grace,
Partaker of divinity;
Am made to know
Of all infinity.
I'm made to feel His
Omnipresence,
Omnipower.
I'm made to know His
Omniscience
In that hour.
I'm made to live
A holy life;
And
then,
I'm made to share
This love . . .
This news . . .
With men.

Arrogance is the product of an ignorant mind—ignorance not of learning or knowledge nor even of worldly experience, but ignorance of wisdom. Though he be the most learned scholar, the arrogant man is a simpleton by his own proclamation. Without the slightest prompting, he will gladly shout his lack of understanding to the world with much pride and eloquence. Yes, he is blind, deaf, and dumb and takes great delight in sharing the fact.

Of all men, he is most deserving of pity, for his deficiencies are not simply physical. His blindness hinders more than vision, extending to the soul where man perceives the image of God. His deafness reaches beyond mere hearing to muffle his understanding. If offered advice of wisdom, he cannot interpret the words; they are only indistinguishable noises to him. But saddest of all is his inability to speak. Oh, he is indeed given to lengthy discourse, and no word falters from his confident lips; but neither is a nail hammered with reluctance by an able carpenter. His message is always a resounding blow in defiance of reply.

Pride, too, is a trademark of the arrogant. He strides easily through the darkness, unaware that darkness exists. Since he cannot perceive his error, he feels that there is no error. In his eyes, humility is a dangerous luxury that can only be afforded by those with no appetite for material success. Hesitation is weakness, and aggression is the only means to achievement.

The life of the arrogant is filled with pomp and ceremony. Importance is a prized dainty, savored with great relish. Title, position, wealth—all measures of worth—are stacked carefully upon velvet pedestals to be whispered over and boisterously denied. One's value is judged as is the weight of gold or the carats of a diamond—only the most obvious is apparent to the arrogant man who has little time in which to judge character.

If one would desire to turn from arrogance, he has only one hope. He must turn to God, the Giver of Wisdom, in faith and accept Christ, the Word, as his wealth. Blinding darkness will be dispelled with the brilliance of wisdom and insight. Deafness will be replaced with the joy of understanding, and the one who was mute will speak the mind of Christ! "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed" (James 1:5, 6).

OF ARROGANCE



TEEN TALENT

A Program of Development

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

is presently a sophomore at Lee College and a member of the Lee Singers. The 1972 keyboard solo winner, Phillip Thomas, has recently completed his master's degree in music at Peabody Conservatory and has returned as a piano instructor in the Lee College Music Department. Since his return, he has been selected to accompany the Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra.

Teen Talent is your opportunity to set a goal of performance and then to achieve it. It seems to be very similar to today's sports world. If someone is a terrific athlete, yet never competes in a game, how will any college or professional scout ever discover him? The same applies in this program. If you do not take advantage of the opportunity to perform in Teen Talent competition, how will any of our colleges know to contact you for scholarship auditions, or how will any state music programs know of your interest? Teen Talent has been a "first step" for many others in today's world of church music and can be the same for you. Don't pass it by! 

Danny Murray is the program coordinator for the 1978 National Music Competition



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WHAT'S COOL?

What's "cool"? According to Webster, it means "moderate, neither warm nor cold." But that doesn't tell us what "cool" *is*. That tells us what it is *not*. I looked in the dictionary to find out what "cool" is and found out, instead, what it is *not*.

In today's language, the images that the word "cool" conjure up depend mostly on one's age. To many young people, "cool" is that blissful, if unattainable, state where one is admired or maybe even envied by his peers.

So, many young people turn the pages of life seeking to be "cool." And instead of finding where or what "cool" *is*, they find, to their disappointment, what "cool" is *not*.

A fourteen-year-old boy at school thought it would be "cool" if he could make his classmates think he had connections for obtaining marijuana. They listened to him wide-eyed, and he went home feeling big. The next day when he was summoned to the office to explain himself, with palms dripping and voice cracking, he found out what "cool" is *not*.

Another student thought it would be "cool" to cut out of school, pedal six or eight blocks on his bike and shoplift a transistor radio. But with a past record of school expulsions and various juvenile offenses, he faces state court action. Now he may not know what "cool" *is*, but he's finding out what it is *not*.

A seventeen-year-old girl thought it would be "cool" to have lots of dates, and there seemed to her to be only one sure way to get them. Now she is pregnant and isn't sure about blaming anyone except herself. She debates with herself between the abortion clinic and the home for unwed mothers. Now that is definitely *not* "cool."

In fact, so many young people have become so frustrated with the "what it's *not*" of their lives, that suicide surpasses every disease as a killer of teenagers.

So where is the answer? How *can* one gain the acceptance and the status he seeks?

First of all, to be accepted by others, one must accept himself. "But how can I be

satisfied with myself when I'm so imperfect and ugly, and such a klutz?"

Why not consider the Apostle Paul's brand of "suicide?" In Galatians 2:20 he says, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

We gain acceptance by accepting. Jesus said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

Through accepting we gain peace with God and with ourselves. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

Through accepting, we gain hope for the future. "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2:13).

Acceptance, peace, and hope for the future are all gained by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior!

Now that is COOL! ☺



USE WHAT YOU HAVE

"Use for God's glory the talents He has given you."



God has endowed most of us with talents of one kind or another. There are a few things we can do as well or better than our peers. For example, being quiet when we should not talk is an art of which some otherwise gifted youth are void. One young person may excel in cordiality, while another is adept in judgment. One of us may have a talent for music, while another is turned toward writing, art, or public speaking.

Webster reminds us that talent is a creative or artistic aptitude. The Teen Talent program of the Church of God is designed to help you develop and employ those aptitudes God has given you. The church knows that once you develop your potential for doing something well, the Lord can use you more effectively in His vineyard.

In fact, that is what Teen Talent is all about. That is, Teen Talent is designed to help you become the most effective person for Christ possible, just as it has

helped other youth. Today former Teen Talent young people are scattered throughout the church where they are being effective workers for the Lord. A good writer, musician, singer, photographer, or artist is always needed in the work of God.

Besides, participating in Teen Talent offers many immediate rewards. It gives fellowship with other youths of similar interests; it affords immediate outlets for Christian service; and it brings

a feeling of accomplishment.

Should a young person participate in Teen Talent? By all means! Look over the long list of categories. Decide the division in which you have potential. Then, go about the task of developing yourself in the chosen division.

What division should you enter? It may be that you could do well in several. Ask the Lord to guide you as you choose. You certainly should at least consider the Bible Division. Its categories include Bible reading, Bible teaching, and the Bible quiz.

In Bible reading the emphasis is upon voice flexation, communication, and diction; in Bible teaching creativity, communication, and originality are stressed. The Bible quiz category requires Scripture memorization and reiteration, and it helps prepare you to be a witness for Christ.

Talk to your pastor about enrolling in Teen Talent. Decide today that you will use for God's glory the talents He has given you.



Youth and Christian Education Activities

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- District Directors Seminar
- Musical Festival

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FRIDAY

- Youth Ice Cream Festival
- Luncheon for State Youth Board Members

WEDNESDAY

- International Youth Celebration
- Single Adult Fellowship

SATURDAY

- Luncheon for Teachers
- Action Rallies
- Teen Talent Awards Festival

THURSDAY

- Action Rallies
- State Directors Meal Function

SUNDAY

- Superintendents Breakfast
- Youth Night Service

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The Call of
NEW YORK
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GUIDING YOUTH

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CONTENTS

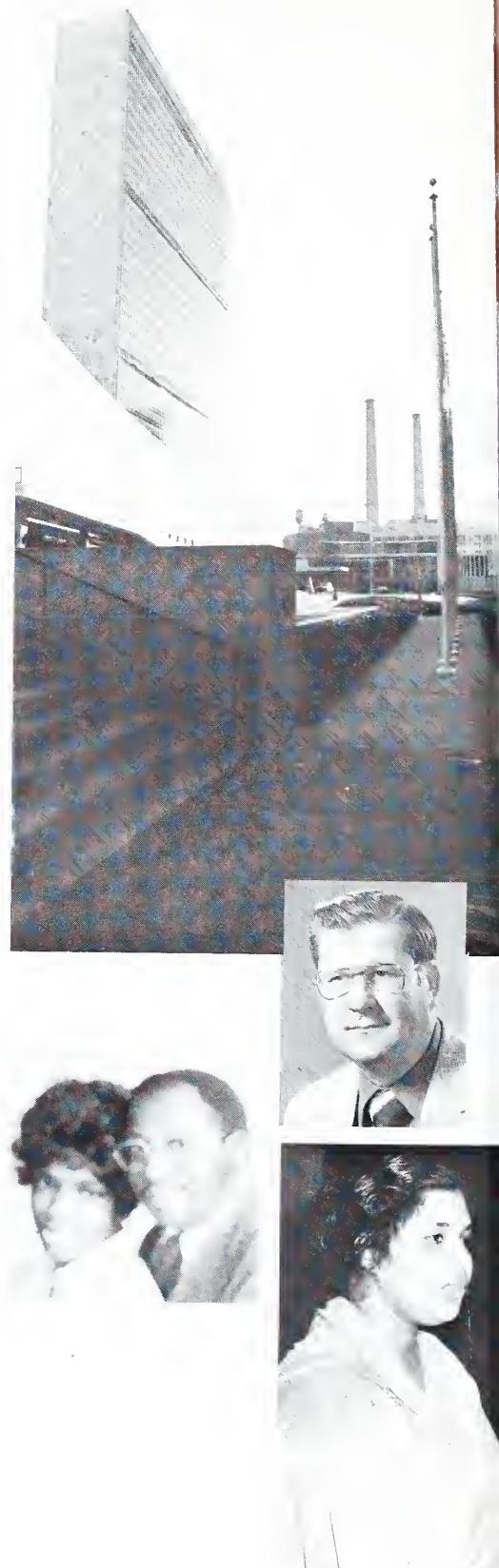
- 3** The Call of New York
By Clyne W. Buxton, Editor
- 6** The Day the Doorknob Winked at Me
By Paul E. Blake
- 8** Proof of the Resurrection
By Nicholas Obeng-Agyemang
- 10** Keynotes
By Mary S. Morris
- 12** Pathway Pointers
- 13** Truthway
- 18** Be Careful What You Think
By Irma Williams
- 18** The Lighted Pathway Lives On
By Malcolm D. Price (as told to Nancy Neal)
- 20** International Bible College
By Robert Reesor
- 20** Teens for Christ, East Fourth Street,
Dayton, Ohio
By L. O. Prosser
- 21** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 22** A Testimony of Praise
By E. Randolph Scott
- 23** Boisterous Winds
By Bev Peterson
- 24** Does God Make Mistakes?
By Dr. Samuel D. Adkerson
- 26** What Holds Things Together?
By Muriel Larson
- 27** Desk of the Editor

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The Call of NEW YORK

By Clyne W. Buxton/**Editor**



(Left) Brother and Sister J. D. Golden are pictured with part of the Indian congregations. They meet in an apartment and worship according to their own culture and customs. (Left, above) The United Nations complex is massive. We toured it on Saturday morning. (Left, center) has given remarkable growth to the church in New York under the leadership of J. D. Golden, overseer.

(Extreme left) Brother and Sister Charles Marcelle are doing a good work with the youth. He is director of youth and Christian education. (Left) Kunjamma Mathew is a member of an Indian congregation. She has already become active in the 1978 YWEA drive. (Most of the photos with this article were taken by Jim Kalett.)

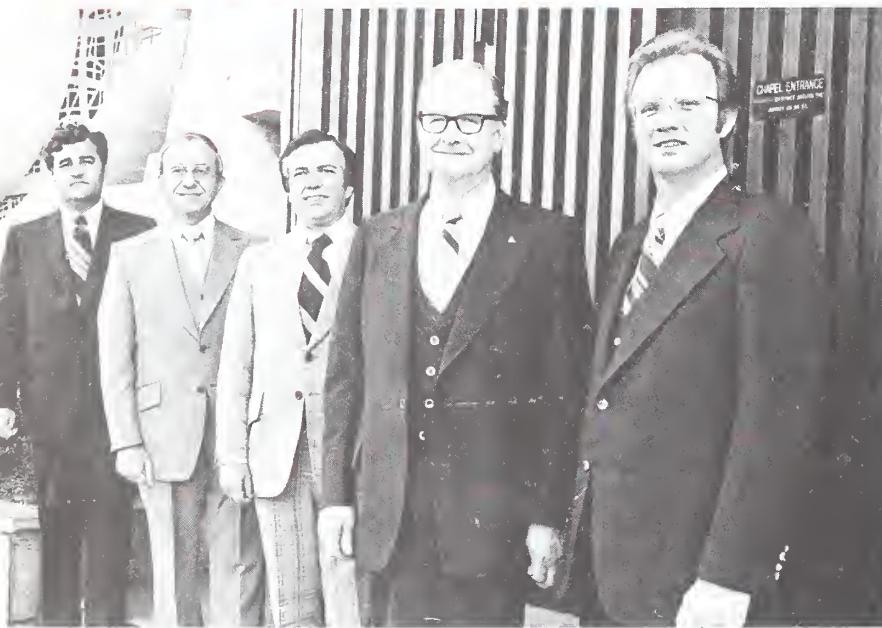
On a recent Sunday morning I sat in a Church of God worship service in New York City. Almost all of the worshipers were from India, and their language was foreign to me. However, I could identify with their

sincerity and the spirit of their worship. Brother Philip Philip, the pastor, made me comfortable with his warmth and cordiality.

I was especially impressed with the young people. A teenage boy played an accordion while

sitting in the congregation, and a pretty teenage girl across the aisle from him joined in the congregational singing with all of her heart. The men sat on one side of the narrow aisle, and the women on the other. ➤

The Call of NEW YORK / CONTINUED



(Above, left to right) Terry Guyton, Clyne Buxton, Marcus Hand, O. W. Polen, and Floyd Carey attended the prayer service which launched the 1978 YWEA project. The service convened in the United Nations Chapel, the front of which is in the background. (Below) Phil Higgins, shown here participating in the prayer service, is a competent and dedicated minister in New York City.



The Indian Church is one of thirty-seven Church of God congregations in New York City. I was making a tour of several churches on that Sunday morning, spending only a few minutes in each. Traveling with me were Floyd D. Carey, Phil Higgins, Marcus Hand, and Terry Guyton.

Upon leaving Brother Philip's Indian congregation, we began driving a short distance to a thriving Haitian church. They had formerly worshiped where the Indians are now having services, but had outgrown that apartment-like room and had moved to larger quarters. En route to the Haitian service, we stopped in front of a beautiful church building which was for sale. Under the guidance of Brother Higgins, we prayed inside the car that God would make it possible for the Haitian

congregation to purchase it.

Soon we arrived at the Haitian church where Brother Bonne Anne is the capable pastor. He has a thriving, vibrant congregation. Worshiping in a converted funeral home, the people (speaking the Creole language) sang, preached, and glorified God with joyful fervor. Their cheerfulness and freeness of worship was inspiring.

Later, we visited another Haitian church which was located in Harlem. Brother Emmanuel Dennis is the pastor. The worship room, a narrow, long hall in a residential area, was filled with people and the enthusiasm of the worshippers was contagious.

We were in New York City for the launching of the 1978 Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA) project. The plans are for the youth of the Church



Church of God members of New York City attended the prayer service. (Above) They listened intently as plans for the International Church were discussed. (Below) They ask God to help them reach their fellow New Yorkers through the International Church.



Overseer of West Virginia Paul Eure and his wife, along with David Meadows, director of youth and Christian education of that state, and his wife attended the United Nations Chapel prayer service.

of God to raise money to establish an international church there. Presently, we have congregations in the city representing such diverse nationalities as Bolivian, Puerto Rican, East Indian, Yugoslavian, Romanian, Haitian, Jamaican, and others.

The International Church will provide a meeting place for various congregations now meeting in homes. It will also serve as a place to train missionaries, and it will provide training for local pastors and workers. New York City is the greatest mission field in the United States, and the International Church will play an important role in the church's evangelization of the city.

The raising of funds for the International Church will be sponsored by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education, Floyd D. Carey, director. Over the years, that department has directed the youth

of the church in raising over two million dollars for various projects throughout the world.

Brother Carey sponsored a prayer service to launch the International Church project. That service convened December 10, 1977, the day before our Sunday visit to the churches. The service convened in the United Nations Chapel.

"Thousands of representatives of all the world's peoples have come to the United Nations in quest of peace and human dignity," commented Carey. "Hopefully, representatives of nations around the world will come to the International Church in New York City in the same manner, searching for the peace of Christ and human dignity that comes with serving the Lord," he concluded.

The Church of God has made phenomenal progress in New York City during the last six years. That progress is due largely to the driving force of a godly man named J. D. Golden,

Steve Brock, pastor of the Princeton Pike Church in Hamilton, Ohio, ministered worshipfully in song at the prayer service.



city overseer. As you talk to Brother Golden, you are immediately caught up with his enthusiasm and vision. He is a dynamo for God.

When he went there as overseer six years ago, we had only ten churches, now we have thirty-seven; then we had 410 members, now we have over 2,000; then the city had an "E" rating, now it has a "B" state rating. It is the only city rated as a "state" in the church, and Brother Golden is the only "city overseer" among us. The souls of the sixteen million people of greater New York weigh heavily upon the heart of Brother Golden, and he believes the International Church will greatly assist him in reaching more of the people.

Phil Higgins is metropolitan evangelist of New York City, and he works with Brother Golden. Brother Higgins, a dynamic, youthful evangelist, sees the International Church as becoming an important stronghold for evangelism. In it he hopes to train workers, nurture new converts, and have evangelistic crusades.

The work of Charles Marcelle will profit immensely from the International Church. Brother Marcelle, the youth and Christian education director of New York City, believes he will be able to reach many youth at the International Church. With such projects as training in youth witnessing, youth Bible study, and the Teen Talent program, he expects to make good use of the facilities.

Therefore, my youthful reader, the money you raise during the 1978 YWEA drive will go to a most worthy and needful project of the Lord's work. May God especially bless you as you put your whole effort into the vital task of helping make the International Church a reality. 

The Day the **DOORKNOB** *Winked at Me*

A busy pastor steps into the imaginary world of children. With fiction, he relates how a child may think of death and heaven.

I am reluctant to reveal the following incident. I am afraid that you, a realistic youth, may call me an oddball, or worse, I will find myself in front of a TV camera being interviewed by a big fat man with pearly white teeth. Have you noticed that some of our fine, outstanding Americans have been laughed right into the nuthouse because they revealed strange stories of visits to Mars?

I wanted to keep this incident to myself, but for the sake of youth of future generations who may find themselves in strange situations, I have decided to tell my story.

It happened this way. . . .

My sweet, but sickly, wife had developed a serious infection in the big toe on her right foot. So, I found myself sitting all alone in the doctor's office one cold, wintry morning last October.

Having nothing better to do, I looked around the waiting room seeking some reading matter. Finding an out-dated edition of

Woman's Day, I slumped down into an easy chair and was quite contentedly reading an article about the dress a celebrity had worn to a ball in Washington. I had just reached the part where the reporter was describing the number of sequins and the cut of the neckline, when I distinctly heard a sound that can best be described as "psst."

It sounded somewhat like a radiator giving off its customary watery hiss. But on looking about the room, I discovered that the heat was coming from air ducts and not from a steam radiator.

I sat slowly back into my chair. "Psst," the sound came again. Laying my magazine aside, I searched the room carefully with my eyes and found nothing—nobody.

"Psst," the sound came again. "Settle down," I said to myself. "There is always an explanation for the unusual."

Again I ran my eyes over the objects in the room. Several pictures of plump babies were hanging on one wall. A watercolor of the Grand Canyon, a thermostat, a large wooden clock with outstretched wooden hands, and a dirty child's handprint were all

that the wall in front of me could offer.

Behind me was a window filled with green flowering plants. On the floor in front of me was a large goldfish bowl with a few tiny wriggling objects therein.

Immediately to my left was another table, cluttered with odds and ends of old magazines that somehow seem to be found in every professional office. That is the list of all objects found in the room; there was nothing else.

"Psst," it came again, this time a little more urgently. It seemed to be coming from my right. Without moving my head, I turned my eyes slowly in that direction. The door came into view. And then I saw it—the doorknob. *It winked at me!*

I jerked my head around. "I didn't see it," I said under my breath. "It didn't happen," I muttered.

"Psst," louder than before. "Over here."

I turned again toward the door. The doorknob winked again. Then it spoke to me. "Come over here. Come closer, I don't want old Doc to hear," it said.



By Paul E. Blake



Paul E. Blake, a competent writer, is pastor of the Tallahassee (Florida) Church of God, Branch Street. He has also pastored in South Carolina, Missouri, and Alabama.

When I hesitated a short moment, it said, "Don't be afraid. I spoke to you, because you look like the type that can keep a secret."

With a nervous laugh, I replied, "You sure shook me up. It isn't every day that a doorknob winks at me, you know."

"I've been watching people since last June," the doorknob sighed, "and you are the only one I could bear to reveal myself to."

Gathering a little more courage, I answered, "My wife, Edith, tells me that kids and old men and dogs seem to like me, no offense intended."

"That's all right," it answered; "I have been wanting to ask a human a question, and I had to choose carefully the one to whom I wished to speak for fear that they wouldn't believe me."

My nervousness had almost vanished at this point, so I answered with a big smile, "You can count on old J. B. Hankins, Sir . . . er . . . Mr . . . er . . . What would you like for me to call you?"

"Call me Timmy," he answered.

"OK Tim, shoot."

"Shoot?" he asked.

"Oh, I mean you can tell me anything. Ask me anything you wish, and I will try to answer," I hastily replied.

Tim hesitated a few moments, as if considering the gravity of his question. Then he said, "Will you swing on me?"

"Swing on you? What do you mean?" I questioned nervously.

"You know, place your hand on me here, and your other hand

IT WAS THEN THAT I SAW A BIG TEAR ROLL SLOWLY DOWN THE LEFT SIDE OF HIS SHINY FACE AND FALL WITH A SILENT SPLASH ON THE FLOOR.

on my back, pick your feet off the floor and give a push so the door will swing back and forth," he said.

"You mean, like I used to do on the barn door or on the front gate? Just swing backward and forward?" I asked.

"Yes, please," Tim said.

"That would be a silly thing for a grown man to do," I stammered.

It was then that I saw a big tear roll slowly down the left side of his shiny face and fall with a silent splash on the floor.

"Don't cry," I begged.

"Please swing on me," he said. "There was a little boy who used to come to see me every week. He had polio and wore braces on his legs. We met last January and were soon good friends. He often rubbed my face and swung his feet off the floor as we played together. For six months he came. Then, suddenly, he came no more. I looked for him every day. One morning I heard Doc and the nurse talking. They were talking about James; that was his name. They said he had died and had gone to a better place.

Can you tell me what they

meant? and where James is?"

I thought for a long minute. Then, in soft whispers I heard myself saying, "Death means going to a better place; going to a bigger house, where there are hundreds of gold doorknobs on which to swing and hundreds of doors that open into rooms filled with joy. . . .

"It means leaving this small place where sadness buckles braces on children's feet and entering a large place where little feet can run through worlds and worlds of flowers and meet hundreds of other friends. . . .

"It means running and singing and playing and sliding down a hundred miles of banisters and eating sugar cookies out of a thousand cookie jars and never having anyone say, 'that's enough'. . . .

"It means swinging on every door that we pass. That's what it is—dying and going to a better place. . . ."

There was a long moment of silence, and Tim said, almost in a whisper, "Thank you, kind sir . . . thank you. Now, will you swing on me, just once, to remember James?"

So, my dear young reader, that is why my wife, Edith, laughed so loud as she came out of Doc's office. She said she had never seen such a silly thing—a grown man swinging on a doorknob.

Do you suppose that's the reason the local TV station wants to interview me this Tuesday night?

I'll be there, but first I have to see Tim. We have a standing date on Tuesdays. ☺

By Nicholas Obeng-Agyemang

Proof

of the

RESURRECTION



H. Armstrong Roberts Photo

Jesus Christ was nailed to the cross at about 9 a.m. on Friday because He claimed to be the Son of God and the Savior of the world (see Mark 12:21-37). He was thirsty and therefore cried for water to drink. Instead, He was given vinegar. After He had drunk the vinegar, He groaned in pain—"It is finished." He then bowed His head and died (see John 19:28-30).

Shortly after Christ died, Joseph of Arimathaea (a Jewish councilman) received permission from Pilate (the Roman governor) to take the dead body off the cross for burial.

Joseph and Nicodemus wrapped the body in linen clothes with spices and laid it in Joseph's empty tomb. Some of the women followers of Christ witnessed this being done. (Refer to Mark 15:40-47 and John 19:38-42.)

On Saturday morning, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate and requested that the tomb be guarded. They feared that the disciples might try to steal the body. Their request was granted, and the tomb was sealed and guarded by Roman soldiers (see Matthew 27:62-66).

Early on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene and some other women came to the tomb with spices which they had prepared for Jesus. To their surprise, they found the tomb empty—Christ was risen! (See Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-11.)

What is so great about the story of Christ's resurrection? What does it all mean?

To the chief priests and the religious elders of the time, it was a rebuke to their pride and to

their undue hatred against Jesus. Raising Jesus from the dead was God's way of saying to the Pharisees and the religious leaders of that time, and even to the world today, that all that Jesus said, did, and claimed to be was true.

Aware of this, the Jewish leaders quickly tried to distort the reality of the story. They bribed the guards to say that the dis-

ples had stolen the body. This heresy remains among the Jews even today. (See Matthew 28:11-15.)

Through the centuries, belief in the Resurrection has often been attacked, ridiculed, and dismissed as foolishness. The Resurrection story strongly faces the same opposition even in some theological institutions today.

Many have tried to dismiss the

reality of the story by saying that Christ was not really dead when He was taken down from the cross. Others say that Mary Magdalene and the other women went to the wrong tomb on that Sunday morning.

Many challenge the truth by simply contending that the whole story was invented. It is regarded as a mere exaggeration and hallucination by those who separate faith and reason, who put reason above all things.

Some argue that it is a myth and that only a person with a simple mind will believe it.

In spite of the vivid accounts found in the Gospels and the Epistles of the Bible, some refuse to believe. Instead, they say that the Resurrection story has no factual and reliable information worthy of believing. The Apostle Paul wrote that Jesus appeared to Peter, then to the twelve disciples, to more than five hundred Christians, and last of all to Paul himself (1 Corinthians 15:4-8).

It is not surprising that the Resurrection story faces much criticism and ridicule. In the Resurrection is embodied the power for holy living, the blessings, the benefits, and the promises that the Christian can find in Christ Jesus.

The devil, knowing this, tries very hard to distort the truth of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He tries very hard to darken the understanding and the spiritual perception of many so that they cannot accept the Resurrection as reality. He knows that if he can get people to disbelieve the Resurrection, then he can rob them of many blessings.

Without a belief in the Resurrection, one cannot receive the real perception of Christ regarding His work, death, and divine nature—for if Christ did not rise from the dead, then He is no greater than other

religious figures like Muhammad, Buddha, or Confucius.

The reality of the Resurrection proves Christ to be the most unique and powerful person of all time. It proves Him to be greater than Muhammad, Buddha, Confucius, and even Sun Myung Moen. Christ is the only person who has conquered death.

Refusing to believe in the Resurrection is as dangerous as



Nicholas, from the Church of God in Ghana, is a graduate student in journalism at Wheaton Graduate School, Wheaton, Illinois.

refusing to believe that Jesus is the only begotten Son of God who died to save all people from their sins. A belief in the Resurrection is necessary before a person can receive the gift of salvation. Paul wrote that "if you openly admit by your own lips that Jesus is the Lord, and if you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9, Phillips).

The Resurrection means that Christ is the perfect Savior for the world. The resurrection of Jesus Christ also gives the child of God a reason to depend on Him for power and strength

for holy living, for peace, and for security in this troublesome world. If Christ had the power to conquer death, then He must have the power to keep and to protect His children.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ gives the Christian a good reason to believe in the future resurrection of those who die in Him. Paul again says that if we believe that Christ died and rose again, then we ought to believe that He will raise those who die in Him. (See 1 Thessalonians 4:14.)

The Resurrection places a solemn responsibility upon those who receive the truth of it. The women who were the first to hear of the triumphant victory of Christ were told to go and tell those who had not heard it (John 20:17, 18).

Therefore, those who receive the same news today have the same responsibility to tell relatives, friends far and near, and schoolmates that Christ is risen and is alive to save people from their sins.

A belief in the Resurrection demands holy living. Paul wrote, "Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

Finally, the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead should not only be the theme of a song to sing in church, an event to look forward to, or a creed to confess; but, it should be the joy and hope of our life. The Christian gains more power and strength for a daily walk with the Lord as he or she strives to know Him through the mysteries and power of the Resurrection. This was the Apostle Paul's desire and ambition when he said, "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death" (Philippians 3:10).



Keynotes

Mary Morris, an accomplished musician, is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of a Church of God pastor.

By Mary S. Morris

MAKING MUSIC IN YOUR HEARTS TO THE LORD

By Brigitte Mayer

(Music teacher at the European Bible Seminary in Rudersberg, W. Germany)

"Music is the best medicine for a sorrowful heart," Martin Luther once said. Also we know, according to the Bible, that music is the only art which will continue in heaven. So in God's kingdom it should be given much emphasis.

The Church of God in Germany in general, and at the European Bible College in particular, we try to put this into practice. In the very early days of the Church of God here, the emphasis was placed on singing with the whole heart. Consequently our singing, from a musical standpoint, was poor in quality. Strangely enough, however, God used it in a wonderful way to comfort the sad, to speak to the hearts of sinners, to make room for the revelation of His glory. We see today that God did not bless us *because* of our simple singing, but *in spite* of it.

At that time I was studying music at the Staatliche Hochschule fur Musik (conservatory on the university level) in Stuttgart, and those very simple joyful songs of the

gospel, sung by a group of committed young Christians, so gripped my heart that I could never get away from it. Soon afterwards, I made my decision for Christ.

Musical training at our high schools has attained a high level. In general, there is an education of five to six years of elementary music theory which later leads into discussions on operas and other classical works. Some high schools have choirs and orchestras as well. Practical training on musical instruments, however, must be taken from private teachers. For a number of years we have had music schools which are partially supported by the local governments, thereby providing training on all kinds of musical instruments at reasonable prices.

This development has also had its influence on the young people of the Church of God. About seven years ago Gerhard Hofmeister, a young pastor in the church, felt the need of starting a choir made up of members from different local churches. It is today by far the best choir

the Church of God has in this area, and it consists of about seventy members. Their ministry is greatly utilized inside and outside the church.

A few of our churches already have a trained choir or are about to start one. Much emphasis along this line is placed in the musical training at the European Bible Seminary. One of our French students, who is in his third year and presently taking a course in choral conducting, has been inspired to develop a choir at a nearby church.

Quite a few of the songs sung by the young people in the Church of God are gospel songs which were written by Americans. At present, however, there are also some good German songwriters who have contributed much to modern gospel music.

At the seminary, we have—besides the choir which includes the whole student body—a special choir, the EBS singers, who practice three times a week and travel to various places to do special ministries. So far, they have ministered in evangelistic meetings, hospitals, prisons, and other places. We always feel that the message contained in a song must be at the center. Our repertoire consists of evangelistic songs, songs of worship, spirituals, and psalms.

A songbook for the young people in Germany is being prepared which includes, among others, a number of songs from Tennessee Music and Printing Company that have been translated into German. We hope to have it available by the summer of 1978, as there is a great need for it among our young people.

Music is a talent that not every person has in this life; but some day in heaven, I believe that we all shall be able to sing the new song in one universal language. ☺

"Having talent isn't worth much unless you find out what to do with it."

"Everyone has talents...recognizing them and putting them to work is the first step toward success. In my case, I get along well with people, I am willing to work hard, and I wanted the fellowship of being with other Christians.

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Pointers

Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education

Our interview this month is with Mrs. Willie Lee Darter, executive secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary. She is known for her enthusiasm, her bubbling energy, and her love for God's work. She has developed many new programs for the Ladies Auxiliary of the Church of God. Among these programs are the YLA's and the Joy Belles. They are designed exclusively for girls, ages 8-18. Her kind spirit is reflected in her answers in this interview.

WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP, HOW DID YOUR PARENTS HELP SHAPE YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD CHRIST AND SERVING HIM?

My father was not a Christian in my growing-up years, although he was a loving dad to all six of us children. He expressed confidence in our ability to reach goals and gave us much freedom to accomplish those aims.

For example, when I was twelve, Daddy taught my younger sister and me the fundamentals of driving a car. Then he told us to go down the country road and practice driving (those were the days of stick shifts and clutches—no license required). That fall, even though I could hardly see over the steering wheel, I drove the car to school. We thought that, as long as Daddy believed we could learn to drive, then we certainly could.

Mother was a quiet, unassum-

ing Christian with deep convictions. She seemed to understand our "growing-up ways" and allowed for trial and error. Nevertheless, she and Dad corrected us when we needed it. Having the baptism of the Holy Ghost to lead and guide me since the age of thirteen, I experienced a lot of happiness and fulfillment.

Although my mother died when I was sixteen, her Christian fortitude continued to be my guiding light. Our chatty conversations, usually around the supper table, would often focus on keeping our moral standards high. These times together strongly influenced my teen years. Because I had a "made-up mind" to hold to those moral standards, temptation was not the hassle it might have been.

AS A CHRISTIAN TEENAGER, DID YOU FEEL CHEATED BECAUSE YOU COULD NOT DO SOME OF THE THINGS OTHER TEENS WERE DOING?

During my teen years, I was so taken up with Jesus in my life that I didn't feel I was being cheated of anything. My problems always seemed so temporary since I knew I had Jesus to take care of them for me. My spirit seemed free and alive. I really



felt that I could do all things through Christ who would strengthen me.

HOW CAN INVOLVEMENT IN CHURCH ACTIVITIES HELP YOUNG PEOPLE TO GROW IN GRACE AND TO LIVE VICTORIOUSLY?

First, there must be a decided love for Jesus in the lives of young people and a faith in the precepts of Christ's teachings. The infilling of the Holy Spirit is a necessary dimension which will enable youth to meet the day with a sense of overcoming grace and joy.

I feel that becoming involved in wholesome and meaningful church activities is absolutely essential for the spiritual growth of young people. Learning and doing create an atmosphere for maturing in the Lord. Discovering a truth for oneself is much more exciting than being told about it.

Today's youth need to experience the fulfillment of being a part of God's family—of belonging to the church and being involved in His kingdom. This Christian involvement will do much to keep them going in the right direction with joy and purpose.

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campus evangelism

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YOUTH

Vickie Bivens

I am speaking to you out of love and honor and respect. I am here to assert myself—to emerge from a time of realizing, learning, and experiencing that will go on forever. I am ready to become one of worth. I am here to state my ideas, my feelings, and my discoveries. I am not here to push you aside, neither to reject you or to ignore you. I am youth. You are the ones who have traveled before me. However, you are not the old; for age is the accumulation of ideas, inventions, love, memories, and discoveries—not the lessening of a person, but merely the passing of time.

I ask you not to hold me back, for I must push on. I must fall. Alone, I must pick myself up. I am at the time when I venture out into the darkness with hope and faith, confidence in myself, and the strength to continue. I enter with a little knowledge, but with a desire to know more. I am willing to accept disappointment and downfalls, for they only point to victory. My ideas must be visualized in pictures, models, and words, for I am of the future. Tomorrow my discoveries will lessen the suffering, brighten the future, and stimulate the inventions of a thousand wonders. I will cure the sick and feed the hungry. Today, a dream exists in my head. Tomorrow, a tangible structure will represent that dream. And while I am entering life with an eagerness that is overflowing, future mistakes are waiting to greet me. But it is with this eagerness that I will go forward, and it is with these mistakes that I will go forward to invent, refine, and perfect. With a vast amount of energy, I enter a world that you have produced. In the beginning, you taught me to exist. I progressed to life, and you taught me to live. I imitated you, I followed you, and I learned from you. Do not retreat from me. For you are my encouragement. You taught me to love, you taught me to reach, and you taught me to discover myself. In that discovery, you introduced me to an endless source of

power. Your mission is not over. You must guide me, encourage me, help me. You must show me the things that are important. You must show me honesty, love, and patience in the adult world. You must not give up on me, for I am young. No longer a child, I do not accept without questioning, and I must search for the answer. You have instilled in me pride, motivation, and desire. You are the parent, the teacher, the professor, the neighbor, the pastor, the scientist, the politician, the author, and the musician. You are Einstein and Schweitzer; you are Lincoln and Churchill, Fleming and Pasteur. You are Faulkner and Poe, Beethoven and Gershwin. You are Picasso and Rockwell, Meier and Edison.

Show me how to look by looking. Teach me to love and to understand by loving me and understanding me. Let us search together. As we exist and live together, let us exist and live together without hurt, strife, or feelings of rejection. Life is too short to waste valuable time on these things. One day you will be gone, and for a time I will feel as if I must carry on alone. But this will last for only a short while, for following in my footsteps, as I am following in yours, will come the future—portrayed in the body and spirit of youth.

PUL
LONG
TEACHING TO PRAY

place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. And he said unto them, When ye pray, say,

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done, as in heaven,
so in earth.
Give us day by day our daily bread
And forgive us our sins;
for we also forgive every one
that is indebted to us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.



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YOUTH AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

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District Directors Banquet
Music Festival

三

Teen Talent Competition—Art,
Bible, Music
Action Rallies—Peacemakers,

Children

EDNESDAY
Teen Talent International Youth Celebration
Action Rallies (2)—Children
Young Adult Fellowship

THURSDAY

Teen Talent Action Rallies (2)—Children State Directors Fellowship

MONDAY State Directors Training Session

Floyd D. Carey R. Lamar Vest
J. Ralph Brewer Lucille Walker

Church of God Department of Youth and Christian Education
Campus Evangelism

Since this is our model prayer, we will do well to observe its contents very closely.

- (1) It is a prayer of adoration.
 - (2) It is a prayer of submission.
 - (3) It is a prayer of consecration.
 - (4) It is a prayer of dependence.
 - (5) It is a prayer for forgiveness.
 - (6) It is a prayer for guidance.

Have you ever prayed the Lord's prayer? Sure, you have repeated it and recited it; but have you ever really *prayed* it? Why not do it now? Pause, and for one time in your life, pray the Lord's prayer and mean it from your heart. You may be surprised how this prayer will open the lines of communication between you and God, the Father. It should—His Son taught it to us.

Tragedy

Theme—"ONWARD TOGETHER"

— Thom Schultz

I'm special. In all the world, there's nobody like me.

Since the beginning of time, there has never been another person like me. Nobody has my smile. Nobody has my eyes, my nose, my hair, my hands, my voice. I'm special.

No one can be found who has my handwriting.

Nobody anywhere has my tastes for food or music or art. No one sees things just as I do.

In all of time there's been no one who laughs like me, no one who cries like me. And what makes me laugh and cry will never provoke identical laughter and tears from anybody else, ever.

No one reacts to any situation just as I would react. I'm special.

I'm the only one in all of creation who has my set of abilities. Oh, there will always be somebody who is better at one of the things I'm good at, but no one in the universe can reach the quality of my combination of talents, ideas, abilities, and feelings. Like a room full of musical instruments, some may excel alone, but none can match the symphony sound when all are played together. I'm a symphony. Through all of eternity no one will ever look, talk, walk, think, or do like me.

I'm special. I'm rare.

And, in all rarity, there is great value.

Because of my great rare value, I need not attempt to imitate others. I will accept—yes, celebrate—my differences.

I'm special. And I'm beginning to realize that it's no accident that I'm special.

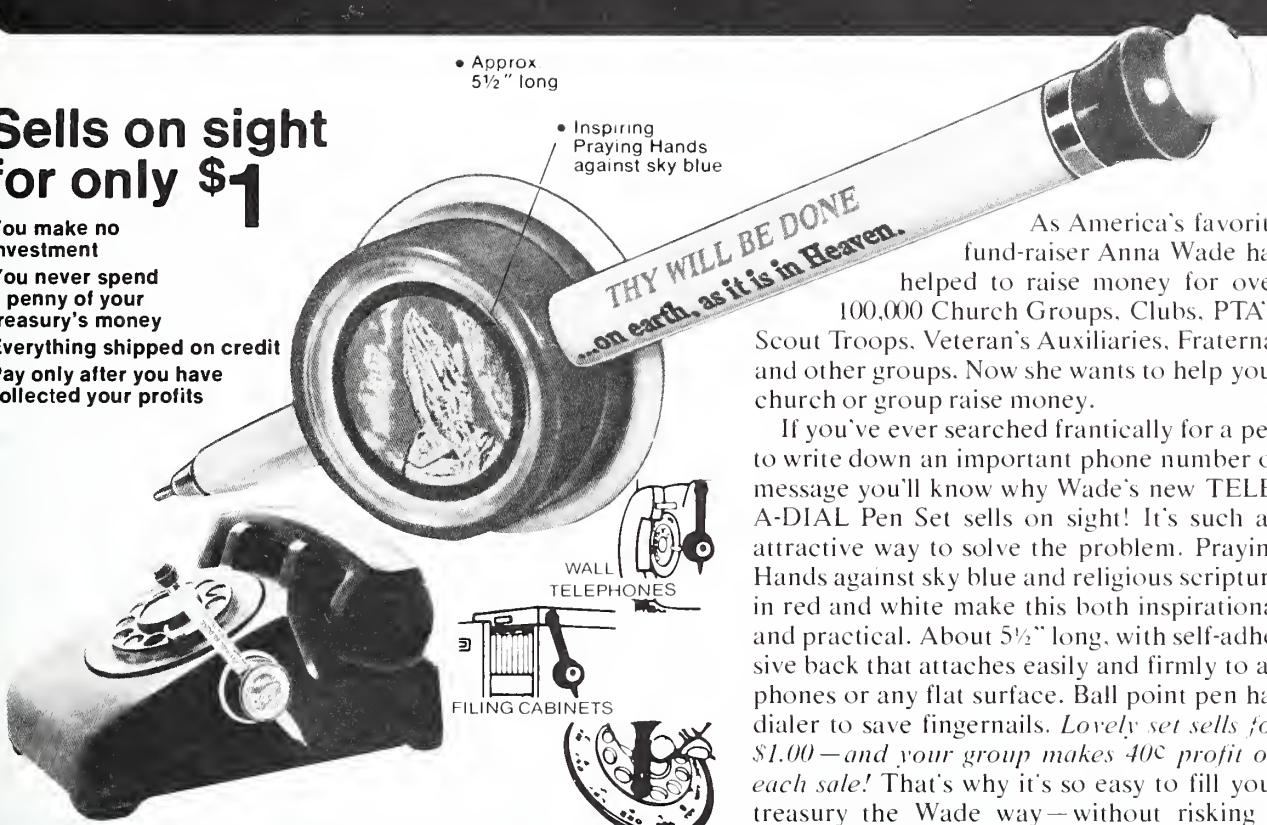
I'm beginning to see that God made me special for a very special purpose. He must have a job for me that no one else can do as well as I. Out of all the billions of applicants, only one is qualified, only one has the right combination of what it takes.

That one is me. Because . . . I'm special.

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The Lighted Pathway Lives On

BY MALCOLM D. PRICE

(as told to Nancy Neal)

The *Lighted Pathway* is designed for young people. Nonetheless, Brother Lewis Jennings Price of Ninety Six, South Carolina, believed the magazine should be distributed by both old and young. Before passing away last summer at the age of eighty, he spent many years of faithful witnessing with the *Lighted Pathway*.

Born October 31, 1896, Brother Price was converted at the age of forty and joined the Church of God. He immediately became interested in the *Lighted Pathway* as a tool to witness to others of God's saving grace and as an opportunity to invite others to worship.

At first, he assisted others in their distribution. But the time came for him to accept full responsibility for distribution of the *Lighted Pathway*, a responsibility he gladly accepted.

Brother Price loved the Church of God youth, and he wanted them to read the *Lighted Pathway*. He distributed the periodical to those of all ages who worked with him at a textile plant. He took them from house to house in his community and the surrounding area. He also gave them out at church and placed the magazine in public places. He did this for minimum cost, and even gave the magazine to those who couldn't afford to purchase one.

He insisted that the contents of the *Lighted Pathway* be read, and he would not continue to sell it to those who couldn't or wouldn't take time to read it.

Because he read each issue first, he knew which articles to call attention to as he distributed it. Besides, he always took old copies belonging to him or to his family and friends and distributed them free of charge in the poorer sections of town.

Brother Price sold many copies each month until his efforts were limited because of his health. Plagued by asthma, there were times when he had hardly enough breath to carry more than a few copies at a time.

Lewis Jennings Price is remembered by almost everyone in Ninety Six. The townspeople always knew what he believed, what church he attended, and that he distributed the *Lighted Pathway*. He finally had to become a subscriber to only one personal copy per month because of ill health. And he often expressed how it hurt him to have to give up his project of wide distribution of the magazine.

Brother Price died July 12, 1977. His family has begun a memorial in his church to continue distributing the *Lighted Pathway*. His personal efforts are missed, but his memory lives on as the distribution of the *Lighted Pathway* continues in the Ninety Six Church of God.

LEWIS JENNINGS PRICE



BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU THINK

There is a certain saying that
Would pay you to give heed;
It says, Your thoughts are the blueprints
Of your near future deed.

If you dwell on a certain thing,
And want it very much,
You're apt to have your wish come true;
Your thoughts put you in touch.

So just be careful what you think
And what you cherish most;
The very thing you entertain
Could turn and be your host.

—Irma Williams

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**International Bible College / Teens for Christ
East 4th St.
Dayton, OH**



Some of the first-year students at International Bible College, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada



This enthusiastic group of young people rocked their way beyond their goal for YWEA.

The first quarter of the year opened with a 34-percent increase in the Freshman Class over last year! Prospects for the second quarter also promise a good increase, and excitement is high.

Plans are being drawn and construction will begin shortly on a new fourplex on the campus. This building will provide housing for married students primarily, and will also temporarily provide some much needed space for student assembly, chapel, and music rooms. Since this is the first new building to be built on campus in several years, it will give impetus and added enthusiasm.

International Bible College (IBC) Day 1977 was a great success! Held on Saturday, October 29, record attendances, generous giving, and good fellowship were highlights of the day. IBC Day is under the direction of the Student Association, and their plans were well laid to make a good day.

The day began with a drama presentation by IBC students, under the direction of Miss Cheryl Roset. Following this presentation, there was a special time of sharing and testimony. It was evident to all that "God is alive," and "Great is His name and greatly to be praised!"

In the early evening a banquet with a record attendance of 285 was held. The singing ministry of the "Chancellors" from Minnesota was a blessing to all. Student Association President Walter Engle challenged those present to give and pledge of their means toward finishing the lower level of the new fourplex. The amount needed was \$3,500 and this amount came in, with \$2,000 in cash and \$1,500 in pledges.

Praise the Lord for what He is doing through International Bible College and the Church of God in Western Canada!

—Robert Reeser

The "Teens for Christ" of the East Fourth Street (Dayton, Ohio) Church of God were burdened for the 1977 YWEA Project—a Bible school in Seoul, Korea. On August 31 they decided to raise \$900 for the Bible school. A 24-hour Rock-A-Thon was the chosen activity to reach this goal, with each teen acquiring as many sponsors as possible.

The date for the Rock-A-Thon was September 16 at 5 p.m. The teens, having already completed a full day in school, started arriving at the church around 4:30 p.m. with their favorite rocker loaded in the trunk of Mom's car.

They were determined to be a success. At 5 p.m. the teens started rocking for nearly \$20 an hour. The phones were kept busy. By 10 p.m. they were rocking for nearly \$50 an hour. The night was still young and filled with loud cheers as new totals were posted.

As the darkness gave way to the morning sun, spirits were still high. Victory lay just ahead as the total continued to climb. At 1 p.m. cheering voices and clapping hands were heard as the new total exceeded the \$900 goal. Four hours later the teens rose and applauded again as the last posting was read: "You went all the way for Jesus! Grand Total, \$1,118.70."

Thank God for the East Fourth Street Teens for Christ!

—L. O. Prosser, pastor

ACTION

NEWS & VIEWS

BELLEFONTE PEACEMAKERS

We, at the Church of God in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, are rejoicing over the newly organized Peacemakers and their reaction toward their new jackets. The jackets, gold with blue lettering, are in keeping with the Church of God colors. Each member is earning his Peacemakers Patch by reading the Book of Acts.

Our Peacemakers are busy in many activities other than their regular monthly meeting. They have their own choir, which has greatly blessed our worship services and the services at a local nursing home.

At our first meeting as Peacemakers we had a pizza party and twenty-three attended. In the future our plans include ice-skating, tobogganing, and also a hayride. This group has also been a financial blessing to our church. I thank God for such a great group of young people.

—Lawrence Bell, pastor

E. L. Cushman, state director

DORAVILLE YOUTH RETREAT

A fun-filled, Spirit-filled, two-day youth retreat was conducted in Toccoa, Georgia, for the Doraville Church of God youth. Classes focused on "The Occult" and "Be a Christian," conducted by the Reverend Bill Leonard, minister of youth and outreach at the Doraville Church and the Reverend Mr. Cox.

"Throughout the retreat God's love was shared by all," reports one of the participants. "The blessings experienced by the youth spilled over to the rest of the church upon our return. Everything worked to create a desire for another retreat."

—David Biggs, Jr.



GAIL KING IS QUEEN

Gail King, daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. R. Edwin King, European representative to the Ministry to the Military, was crowned 1977 Queen of the Kaiserslautern (Germany) American High School. She was one of the six nominees selected by the juniors and seniors, with more than 800 in the class. After her nomination, she personally requested that her name be withdrawn from consideration for queen if it would, in any way, mean a compromise or reflection upon her Christian life and convictions. She was assured that this would not happen. When the voting was over, Gail was the winner.

Gail is now a freshman, attending West Coast Bible College. She plans to further her education in counseling and social work.

PRIORITIES—How to Set Them

1. Remember that you have only a limited time to choose the best—no time at all for that which holds you back.
2. Decide what is urgent.
3. Decide what is best and live for it.
4. Time is running out. Make the best of what you have.
5. Seek first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6:33).

OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR SCHOOL

Released-time religious classes are available in public schools in many areas. Check to see if yours is one and take advantage of this right. Also in some areas school facilities may be available after regular school hours for religious instruction. The American Sunday School Union is reported to have thirty missionaries reaching ten thousand students weekly in one hundred schools. Help introduce your fellow students to Christ.

PEN PALS

If you would like to correspond with others about the good news of the gospel, we have three names and addresses to share with you of prisoners who would like Christian friends and encouragement:

Joe Ortkiese, P. O. Box 667, #058462; #E-216, Bushnell, FL 33513

Gregory S. Forbes, #147432, London Ohio Correctional Inst., P. O. Box 69, London, OH 43140

Rob Heppner, T-2M-4L 9, 1823 Palliser Dr., SW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

A TESTIMONY OF PRAISE



Randolph, a student at Lee College, is shown here with Dr. Delton Alford, vice-president of the college.

By E. Randolph Scott

Nearly two years ago I realized that God had placed His call upon my life. I had a government job, I was receiving a fine salary, I had a nice car; but there was something missing. I realized that most of my friends were sinners and that I was associating with the wrong crowd.

At this time I decided to place God first and foremost in my life and selfish desires last! As I grew closer to God, I became aware that my thoughts, my attitudes, even my motives for living had been wrong. As I prayed, God showed me that to be true to Him, I must first be true to my own self.

I began to trust God and to obey Him. As I look back, all those things I relinquished—my friends, my car, my job—

were only hindrances that kept me from doing God's will. So I came to Lee College—without a car, without a job, and without much money. But I came with the burning desire to let the Lord have His way in my life and to do His will, whatever the cost.

Since then, I have been prayerful and have dedicated myself to God. Many miracles have come my way. Initially, God answered my prayer as a music major at Lee College. I was accepted as a member of the Lee Singers.

One day Dad came home from work early; he was very ill. A respiratory ailment which had plagued him for some time struck him that day, and he almost died. Our pastor came and prayed with him, and God ex-

tended to him a miraculous healing touch. Later, my dad gave his heart to the Lord.

One of my remaining needs at Lee was a financial one. I began to doubt God and His will for my life. I searched for a job, but found none. One day as I returned to Walker Hall, despondent about my situation, I noticed a note on my door. To my amazement, my parents had called to tell me that over \$2,700 owed me from my previous job was being mailed to me. I could only cry and thank God! I received the check a short time later. It was unbelievable!

God has touched others on campus through these personal victories over Satan and through personal witnessing. A young lady from Pennsylvania to whom I had been witnessing for some time was saved in the office of Walker Hall as my dorm supervisor, my friends, and I prayed with her. News of her salvation spread rapidly across campus.

The following day, Pastor Ronald Broek mentioned her salvation in his morning message at the North Cleveland Church of God as the congregation was moved upon by the Spirit of God. As she testified during the last service of Fall Convocation and as the Campus Choir sang, the Holy Ghost moved upon the congregation. It was truly a great experience in the Lord for both of us!

At the present time I am working at one of the local churches in Cleveland as a minister of music under the direction of the Reverend Roosevelt Miller—another answer to prayer. Surely I shall trust the Lord all the days of my life, for all the needs of my life.

All that I am, and ever hope to be, I owe it all to Thee, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. 

The account of Christ walking upon the water, given in Matthew 14:22-33, revealed the need for Christ to comfort His disciples because of fear. Christ even beckoned Peter, because of his desire, to join Him on the water.

Oceans, of course, indicate deep water. A person can be ever so good a swimmer, having put many hours of preparation into his training; however, if he doesn't have something to hang on to or to rest upon, he will eventually drown.

In the realm of thought, we can also venture far into the water. If we do not have something to hang on to or to rest upon, that great expanse may eventually engulf us and destroy us.

If we could view an entire ocean, a buoy would seem quite insignificant. However, if that object were of sufficient size in comparison with a drowning person, it would support him until help arrived. Instead of being insignificant, it would be-

come crucial to that person's survival. What, indeed, is a more buoyant object than Jesus Christ? Matthew 14:25 tells us, "In the small hours Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake" (*Phillips*).

If we venture out into the deep waters of thought, we must hold fast to the most sufficient buoy in the universe—Jesus Christ. "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God" (2 Corinthians 3:5).

Examine Peter's actions. He stepped out of the boat into the deep water. There was absolutely no problem as long as he kept his eyes on Christ, the source of life. But when he started paying more attention to the outside forces—the boisterous winds—than to Christ, he began to sink.

Peter cried, "Lord save me!" (Matthew 14:30, *Phillips*).

Just as the violent wind drew Peter's attention away from Christ, so will the boisterous

winds and the deep water of speculation, theorization, indecision, or simply trying to go it alone in life distract us. Taking the hand of Christ, we must be aware of our lack of sufficiency and recognize Him as the source of life and safety.

Individuals have been lost upon the ocean for days, weeks, and even months. Finally, they were rescued, either by a search party or by mere accident.

However, it is no accident that Christ is upon the water. Christ is the supreme search party, and He walks upon the water even today. Luke reminds us that "the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

Just as the ocean is not the natural habitat of man, so this world is not the natural habitat of the Christian. We need to hold onto Jesus Christ—the only true source of survival. Soon He will take us out of this world to live with Him in our natural habitat. 

Philip Gendreau Photo

BOISTEROUS WINDS

By Rev. Peterson

DOES GOD MAKE MISTAKES?

The following interview was conducted with Patricia Steinbarger, district youth and Christian education director on the Modesto District in Northern California. She is also the wife of Robert Steinbarger, pastor at Merced, California.

ADKERSON: Much has been written and said in the news over the past several years about South Korea. What attracted your attention to the 1977 YWEA project, a Bible school in Seoul, Korea?

STEINBARGER: I first heard about the Church of God Youth World Evangelism Appeal project to build the Bible school at a district directors' seminar conducted in Sacramento, California. As the YWEA project was being discussed and as I viewed the YWEA filmstrip, my heart was touched deeply. While the Reverend Lovell Cary, superintendent of World Missions in the Far East, spoke of the desperate need for a Bible school in Seoul, I felt a challenge for the youth on my district to become involved in this project.

ADKERSON: The program you planned for and implemented on the Modesto District for YWEA was quite successful. Would you share it with us?

STEINBARGER: I prayed and asked God to help me as a district leader to develop a campaign for YWEA that would encourage total involvement of the youth on the Modesto District.

One night I was awakened from sleep, and the Holy Spirit inspired my thoughts toward having a "Sweetheart Contest" between the four churches on my district: Modesto, Carver Road; Modesto, El Paso; Salida; and Merced. Once my plan was



Robert and Patricia Steinbarger (top photo) pastor the Merced, California, Church of God. She is also director of youth and Christian education on the Modesto District. (Above, left) The Merced Church of God. (Above, right) Kathy Moss, member of the Merced Church, was crowned District Sweetheart. She is shown with her parents.

formulated, I presented the campaign outline to the local church youth leaders and pastors at a district leadership conference.

ADKERSON: The foundation for your campaign was certainly laid properly. Would you relate the basic outline of the district Sweetheart Contest?

STEINBARGER: Each of the four churches on my district se-

lected a contestant to compete for the title "District Sweetheart." Various fund-raising activities were scheduled by the individual churches. All funds were to be brought to a special banquet to be held in February. The contestant raising the largest sum of money for YWEA was to be selected as District Sweetheart.

ADKERSON: I would like to

By Dr. Samuel D. Adkerson

zero in on the Merced Church of God. How did you and Pastor Steinbarger come to be ministers at Merced?

STEINBARGER: Bob received orders to be transferred from Ohio to Castle Air Force Base, near Merced. After arriving, we began to search for the nearest Church of God. We finally found a small rural church three miles east of Merced. The church had been reopened about the time we received orders to come West.

Shortly thereafter, Bob was asked by the state overseer to pastor the Merced Church. We were excited for we knew that God had sent us to California. However, the excitement vanished when our first service at the church was attended by only three persons—Bob, our daughter, and me. How well I remember praying, "Surely, you have made a mistake God!" But I know that God doesn't make mistakes.

ADKERSON: How marvelously God works when one is committed entirely to Him! Would you mind sharing the manner in which your church involved itself in YWEA for 1977?

STEINBARGER: Kathy Moss, one of only two young ladies in our church at the time, was selected to represent Merced in the District Sweetheart Contest.

I presented the 1977 YWEA filmstrip at our church, and things began to happen. Our group of young people grew from two to twenty; and they set about to do what they could to aid in the construction of a Bible school for Seoul, Korea. Car washes, bake sales, slave days, and various types of auctions ensued.

ADKERSON: By this time enthusiasm and excitement were building. How did this affect you?

STEINBARGER: After watching the kids work so hard, I realized that I wanted to do something special for them as a reward. I began telephoning the different merchants in the city of Merced. I shared with them the involvement of the youth of their city in this wholesome and worthwhile project. The response was overwhelming! Ninety-nine percent of those called responded by donating prizes and gift certificates. A similar reaction was effected in Modesto. More than five hundred dollars in gifts and certificates was awarded to the four contestants at the banquet.

ADKERSON: I want to commend you for involving the city in this endeavor. I trust that in the future more of our churches will become involved in community activities and will invite the community to participate in church projects.

That banquet must have been outstanding. Could you describe "the big night"?

STEINBARGER: When I walked into the banquet hall that night, it was as if I had just walked into a storybook. A local florist in Modesto had volunteered to decorate, without charge, the entire banquet hall.

She chose to use ribbon instead of crepe paper; and if we had had to pay for it, the cost would have exceeded \$1,200.

Since it was a Sweetheart Banquet and since it was held in February, the colors used were red and white. The beautiful queen's chair of red velvet rested on a raised platform and was framed by ribbon draped from the ceiling. Flowers were everywhere! It was the most beautiful banquet I have ever attended.

ADKERSON: How beautifully decorated the hall must have been; but I am anxious to know

who was crowned as District Sweetheart. Would you tell me?

STEINBARGER: Kathy Moss, from our little church of only twelve members, was crowned District Sweetheart. Our little group had managed to raise \$2,400, an average of \$200 per member. I understand that this established a new national record for per member giving to YWEA.

Modesto (El Paso) was second with a total of \$700. Modesto (Carver Road) was third with a total of \$413.55; and Salida raised a total of \$300.

ADKERSON: God has always blessed a mission-minded church. In what ways has He helped your church?

STEINBARGER: God has blessed the Merced Church because of its efforts in mission giving. Our membership has tripled. We have broken our Sunday school attendance record five months in succession. We now average over one hundred in Sunday school. Over \$1,000 worth of gravel has been donated to cover our parking lot. Doors are beginning to open and we expect to be able to purchase a larger and nicer church building. God is blessing our church bountifully.

ADKERSON: I would like to ask you one more question. Do you think God made a mistake in sending you to Merced, California?

STEINBARGER: No, He does all things well. 

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The apple seems to get credit for several important things. Some people say it was the forbidden fruit that Adam and Eve ate in the Garden of Eden when they committed the first sin of disobedience to God. It has also been claimed that an apple falling on Sir Isaac Newton's head can be credited with helping him discover the law of gravitation.

Newton was only twenty-four years old when he discovered this great law of nature: that all bodies of matter possess a mutual attraction. That's what we call gravity. That's what makes apples fall. That's what keeps us from falling off the earth, even though it is spinning through space.

The Bible has a very interesting thing to say on this sub-

ject. Colossians 1:16, 17 says:

For by him [Christ] all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together (NIV).

Isn't that an amazing revelation? Christ is not only the Creator of the universe, but also the Power behind the gravity that holds things together!

Applying this thought personally, the Lord is the One who can hold our lives together also. The lives of many young people are shattered because they do not take the Lord into account in their planning. They do not seek His wisdom. They do not seek His will. They barge ahead with their own ideas, like the men who built the Tower of Babel.

But the plans of those men fell apart, and they were scattered to the four corners of the earth by God. They left Him out of their thinking; therefore, He took away their ability to stay together. He gave them all different languages. "In Him all things hold together." It is also in His power to break apart.

And it is His power that can make all things work together for good in our lives, if we truly love Him and seek His will (Romans 8:28). It is through His power that a young person can have a well-integrated personality, that he can become a mature person, that he can meet the problems of life unafraid. It is through His power that we can find the main purpose for our lives so that we may glorify Him.

Let's allow God's power to hold us unwaveringly to the best course: His way for us! 

What HOLDS THINGS Together?



By Muriel Larson

How to Live

"The Holy Spirit searches out the inner recesses of your soul."

As a young person facing life, you need to know how to be a success at living. I am not at all an expert in this area, but there are some vital points I would like to share with you.

Forsake grudges. Life can become complicated and frustrating at times. Occasionally we will have misunderstandings with those about us. However, we must learn to forgive and forget. If you carry a grudge against someone day in and day out, you will be the one who suffers more than the one who is the object of your grudge. A grudge can become hate, and hate can damn your soul.

Overcome obstacles. Problems—such as the loss of a boyfriend or girl friend, or the death of a loved one, or the failure to get a certain job—will come; but you don't have to bow to such obstacles. You can overcome them. Actually, problems themselves are not nearly so important as what you decide to do with them.

Pray much. The effect that constant prayer can have on your life is absolutely astounding. Whether you pray only a whispered prayer or a prolonged one, God hears and He answers. Prayer gives direction in life, and raises you above the

humdrum living of your peers who bypass the prayer closet. Praying until you touch God or "praying through" is a glorious experience, and one you cannot afford to ignore. I would like to



share with you the "ACTS" of prayer, which I picked up from another writer sometime ago.

A - Adoration. Spend the opening moments of your prayer praising and honoring the Lord.

C - Confession. Admit your dependence upon God. Confess all wrong-doing.

T - Thanksgiving. Tell the Lord of your thankfulness for what He has done and will do.

S - Supplication. Make your needs known to Him.

You will find that this formula will give order and structure to your prayer. Admittedly, there

will be times when you will pray beyond a "formula" and "the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us (you) with groanings which cannot be uttered."

Read often. When the Prophet Daniel read the Word of God, and fasted and prayed (see Daniel 9), he got very close to his God. Also, he was given some important answers to problems facing him and his people. Likewise, the Bible is your sourcebook for knowing God and knowing yourself. Therefore, read the Book often.

Worship regularly. Christianity thrives on fellowship. It is little wonder then that the Apostle Paul tells you not to forsake the sanctuary. Your thoughts are never nobler than when you sit in God's house. From there sin looks its dirtiest, and any taint of wrong in your life looms before you as a black mountain. Also, pure thoughts flow more freely at church. During the singing, praying, and preaching, the Holy Spirit searches out the inner recesses of your soul as you are built up in the holy faith.

Of course, these guidelines for living are not all inclusive, but they are some very important ones. Follow them and you will grow in Christ.



When the
Spirit
of **Loves**

ACTS 2:4

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April, 1978

Volume 49, Number 4

CONTENTS

- 3** Who's That Knocking?
By Gail Denham
- 6** What's Wrong With Homosexuals?
By J. W. Jepson
- 9** Phony Baloney
By Muriel Larson
- 10** Standing on the Promises
By Erek R. Storms
- 12** They Passed This Way Singing
By Paul D. Spence
- 16** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 18** Keynotes
By Mary S. Morris
- 20** Pathway Pointers
- 22** My Broken Marriage
Anonymous
- 23** Sentence Commentaries
By Betty Spence
- 24** How to Overcome Doubt
By Gordon Chilvers
- 26** Call of the Master
By Floyd L. McClung
- 27** Desk of the Editor

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Who's That Knocking?

the kitchen to get the food.

Back in Bible times, it was a different story. For one thing, everyone slept in the same room, usually in a row of beds on the floor. In order for a person to get up, fetch the bread, and give it to the friend outside, he had to step over several children, maybe stumbling, waking one or two of them, and in general causing a lot of fuss.

In Luke 11, Jesus told the story about the man who had just gone to bed when his friend came knocking at the door. The man told his friend to go away. The door was shut and locked; the kids were all in bed; and he didn't want to wake them up. Even for a good friend, he wouldn't do it!

But the friend didn't give up. "Yet because of his [the borrower's] importunity he will rise and give him as

By Gail Denham

many as he needeth" (Luke 11:8). *Importunity* is a polite term for "nagging."

Jesus was talking about prayer when He told this story. In the next verse He said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Luke 11:9). The man pounding on the door at midnight is an illustration of someone being persistent in prayer.

Does God really answer our prayers? Sure, we pray a lot, but does it do any good? Anyway, why should He bother

Can you imagine hearing the doorbell ringing in the middle of the night? Your dad jumps up, hitting his knee on the nightstand. Your mom sits up, whispering in frightened tones, "Who in the world can that be at this time of night? Do you suppose there's been an accident?"

Then they hear the voice from beneath their window. "Say, Sam, can you spare a loaf of bread and a quart of milk? Millie's family just pulled in from Ohio, and we're out of groceries."

Millie's husband keeps on asking for the needed groceries, and finally your dad gets up and goes stumbling out to

WHO'S THAT KNOCKING?

CONTINUED



ALAN CLIBURN PHOTO

answering prayer for us when He's got so many other things to think about?

We really don't have to beg God to answer our prayers. He loves to supply our needs, even though He may not always answer when we think He should. Yet, God expects us to tell Him our needs—clearly, without fear, and often. (See Luke 18:1-8.)

Over and over again, Jesus promised that if His followers would ask anything of God in His (Jesus') name, He would do it for them. "If ye shall ask any thing in my name,

I will do it" (John 14:14).

Does God answer just anyone's prayer? No, Jesus told His followers (those who believed on Him) that their prayers would be answered. The prayer of an unbeliever that God hears is a prayer of repentance—when an unbeliever repents of his sin and asks forgiveness, inviting Jesus Christ into his life.

If we have unconfessed sin in our hearts, God will not answer our prayers (Psalm 66:18). If we ask "amiss" or for the wrong reasons, our prayers won't be answered (James 4:3).



TONY FREEMAN PHOTO



We need to walk close to the Lord if we expect to receive answers to prayer (John 15:7). Also, we should pray in faith and with thanksgiving. We should worship God and should consider His greatness as we pray.

But when we follow all the directions in God's Word about prayer, then we should get answers to our prayers. Why? Why does God answer prayer?

God answers prayer to glorify His name (John 14:13). When we get an answer to prayer, we want to run and

tell everyone about it. This glorifies God.

He answers prayer by helping us to witness so that we can bring others to know Jesus.

And also, He answers prayer so that we can have joy. It is so exciting to see a prayer answered "right in front of our eyes." Whether big ones or small ones, it's exciting to think that God took time to hear our prayers and to let us see Him working things out just for us!

This shouldn't be unusual. It should be happening every day. Every day we can talk to God about our needs and our problems, and we can expect to see Him at work.

Did you know that you can pray about who you get for a locker partner? Our sons did, and they each got a Christian locker mate that they really like.

There may be a time when you have a really rough test coming up. If you pray about it, God can bring to your mind everything you have studied so that you'll be able to answer the questions.

Do you feel really mean and ornery some days? God can change your attitudes so that you will become more and more like Jesus Christ.

Many Christian young people want their parents or other family members to accept the Lord. One church youth worker had been praying for her brother who wasn't a Christian and whom she hadn't seen or heard from in several years. One night during a high school Bible study, the phone rang. It was her brother calling from the airport, asking her to come and get him! Only a few minutes before, the group had been praying for his salvation.

I believe that it is important to tell God just exactly what

you need or what your problem is. Is there a boy in your gym class who is a real pest, who loves to hide your gym shoes or push you under a cold shower?

Pray for him. Ask God to calm him down and save him and to give you special understanding for him. Don't be surprised if the Lord makes you like him after awhile, and you end up being his friend.

Is there something you really need? Something that costs more than your allowance will buy? Don't be afraid to tell God about it. Ask Him to supply that need.

Remember, though, that you should always give God part of your money as a tithe, as the Bible tells you to do. Also, make sure that you are willing to work for what you want. Then, expect God to give you what you need, if He sees it's best for you.

What if God says no to you? Then just trust Him; in a short time, you usually will find out why it wasn't best for you to have that request. (Remember, "no" is an answer, too.)

"All right, I will pray," you say, "but my faith is very weak."

REMEMBER, TOO,
IF YOU KEEP
KNOCKING, GOD HAS
PROMISED TO
ANSWER.

You may have fallen into a doubting mood common to some other teenagers:

1. Why should God bother with teenagers, with all He's got to think about?

2. I haven't exactly been doing His will lately.

3. I only ask for help with the big problems. I can handle the little ones myself.

4. I'm just not sure God loves me that much!

5. It probably isn't His will for me anyway.

6. He'll probably give me something I don't like because it's "good for me," rather than something I asked for.

Are these your excuses?

Then you really don't know how much God loves you. He has the hairs on your head numbered. He planned your life before you were even born (Psalm 139).

We trust Him to save us from our sins. Can't we trust Him with everyday problems?

Why not start praying now? It's the only way to learn and to begin getting answers. Talk to God about every single thing in your life. Ask Him, picturing the answer in your mind. Then be sure to thank Him for the answer.

You will find it helpful to keep a record of your requests and the answers.

1. Get a small notebook.

2. Carry it with you.

3. List your prayer requests in the notebook, writing the date you prayed and when you need the answer; leave a column to record the date when God answers.

4. Refer to it often and remember to thank Him.

Remember, too, if you keep knocking, God has promised to answer. ☺

Dad, I just got tired of hiding; so I decided to come out of the closet," the young man with delicate feminine features confided to his stunned father. With heavy heart, the older man listened to his son's frank confession.

Through the years he had watched him grow from infancy to adulthood, always endeavoring to be a close, approachable Christian father. He had noticed his son's sensitiveness, his lack of interest in the more masculine activities, but had dismissed it as a difference of personality.

He was hardly prepared for what he was hearing. Fortunately, the father's understanding and experience, together with a good rapport with his son, enabled him to help the young man to a healthy, normal life.

An encounter like this can bring the "gay revolution" home with brutal reality. And "revolution" it is. Until recently, homosexuality was practically an unmentionable. Now it screams at us. The media carry the "gay rights" demands into our homes. Political action is arousing the public, rallying people, including youth, into opposing camps. The issue is explosive. Feelings run high.

The church cannot ignore the situation. It must not. It has an obligation to the Lord, to itself, and to the world to examine the problem in the light of what God has spoken and to declare the truth to the world.

Homosexuals are not a third gender, or a distinct ethnic group. They are ordinary people who have chosen to obey homosexual desires and to develop such relationships.

Several conditions contribute to homosexual tendencies.

One is an individual's physiology, including biochemistry. Some boys are naturally less masculine and some girls less feminine than most. The result is an increased susceptibility to homosexual attractions and temptations.

But susceptibility is not surrender. A person with homosexual feelings is *not* a homosexual, unless he or she yields to them. Your physiology does not *make* you a homosexual unless you let it. The saying is true: "Homosexuals are made, not born." A feminine-type boy is a *boy*. A masculine-type girl is a *girl*.

Also contributing to the problem is the sex-role confusion resulting from an emphasis on unisex (clothing, hairstyles) and uniformity between the sexes. The effort to eliminate bias and discrimination tends to go too far, to ignore the factual differences between the sexes and the roles for which each is naturally best fitted.

Woman domination in the home contributes to homosexuality, particularly in boys. A boy who is dominated by his mother and who sees his father so dominated runs a higher risk of slipping into homosexual attitudes and practices. Not having a clear domestic example of what a man and a husband is supposed to be, he can grow up without a correct idea of what he himself is.

Years ago a grade school boy retorted to his father, "If you spank me, I'll tell mother on you!" That boy grew up to become the young man mentioned at the beginning of this article.

The opposite extreme is

harmful, too. A boy dominated by his father can grow up feeling inadequate, submasculine. Every boy needs to develop a good masculine self-image. For this he needs an attainable model, preferably his father. The same holds true for girls, the feminine model being preferably the mother.

Other factors are contributing to the problem: "gay" demands; increasing efforts by the institutions of society (government, education) to condition the public to accept homosexuality as a normal life-style; the materialistic view of man and the resulting downgrading of marriage; the demand for absolute personal autonomy in so-called "private" practices; rejection of the authority of the Scriptures.

The Bible is God's Word, and it has much to say about homosexuality.

Sodom is the classic case study. Genesis 13:13 says that "the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly." Chapter 19 tells what this wickedness was. The men of Sodom (and they were *men*) were intent on homosexual rape. Their perversion had developed to a violent stage. When that happened, God destroyed the city, warning all succeeding generations that He regards sodomy as intolerable, a moral cancer that demands radical social surgery to save society.

Ever since, Sodom has been a symbol of moral perversion and its consequences (Deuteronomy 32:32; Isaiah 3:9; Jeremiah 23:14; Revelation 11:8).

Another occurrence, sometimes overlooked, happened at Gibeah (Judges 19:22-25). Frustrated in their



WHAT'S WRONG WITH HOMOSEXUALS

By J.W. Jepson

JOHN HUDSON TINER PHOTO

homosexual attack, the men of Gibeah turned instead to a woman, raping her repeatedly so that she died.

Male homosexual prostitution is forbidden in Deuteronomy 23:17, 18 (such persons are termed "dogs," an expression of utter contempt). Homosexuality is condemned in Leviticus 18:22—"Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination." Under the Mosaic law it was punishable by death, as we read in Leviticus 20:13: "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have com-

mitted an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

The practice was associated with the decline of ancient Israel (1 Kings 14:24), and renewal included the uprooting of the sin (1 Kings 15:12; 22:46; 2 Kings 23:7).

Romans 1:24-28 names homosexuality as one of the worst and most degrading of the immoral practices of pagan societies. They "dishonour their own bodies between themselves" (vs. 24), "men with men" (vs. 27) committing indecencies and suffering the due results.

In 1 Corinthians 6:9, 10, homosexuality is listed among the sins that will keep people out of heaven. In 1 Timothy 1:9-11, homosexuals are included among those who are under the condemnation of the law, and the practice is pronounced contrary to sound doctrine according to the gospel.

Homosexuality is included in the term "lasciviousness" (shameful and disgusting practices expressing total surrender to perverted passion) in Mark 7:22; 2 Corinthians 12:21; Galatians 5:19; Ephesians 4:19; 1 Peter 4:3; and ➤

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HOMOSEXUALS?

/ CONTINUED

Jude 1:4. It is included also in the term "uncleanness" in Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5; and 1 Thessalonians 4:7.

Jude 7 says that Sodom, Gomorrah, and the surrounding cities "are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

In 2 Peter 2:6-10 the homosexual conduct of Sodom and Gomorrah is categorized as "filthy" (v. 7) and "unlawful" (v. 8). Verses 9 and 10 say that God will "reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness."

Sexual perversions such as homosexuality are a consummate affront to God and His natural order. Homosexuality is biologically unnatural. It outrages God's natural purpose in sex. Job 36:14 implies a shortened life-span for some Sodomites, perhaps from venereal disease.

The practice is psychologically damaging. It robs people of self-respect and human dignity. It produces emotional and social frustration, leading to violence ("They . . . came near to break the door," Genesis 19:9). It is socially disintegrative, a threat to stable order. It undermines the home and seeks to replace the stability of heterosexual marriage with a shallow, transient "affair" that is unable to provide the basis for a total and permanent interpersonal relationship. It is dehumanizing and enslaving, dethroning reason and placing subhuman passion in control.

It is a threat to society, therefore, and should not be sanctioned by any institution—public or private.

"Gay rights" has become a catchphrase. "Presumptuous are they" (2 Peter 2:10). Of course, demands are not necessarily rights. Homosexuals do not have a right to force their feelings onto others. Employers have a right not to hire persons they believe morally unqualified. Parents have a say in who shall be authority figures in the lives of their children (*for example*, teachers). Christian institutions have a right not to be forced to employ persons who violate Christian morality.

Government has no sanction to use public funds to condition the public to accept homosexuality as a normal life-style. If public education campaigns against the teachings of the Bible, separation of church and state is violated.

The disorder and violence inherent in homosexuality exhibited itself at Sodom and at Gibeah. It is beginning to do so in modern society. No nation can survive moral anarchy. If it sows to the flesh, from the flesh it will reap corruption.

Sin always dishonors God and ruins people, including youth. That is why God, who loves youth, is opposed to sin. For the same reason, young people who love God and people must also be opposed to sin. We oppose homosexuality because it dishonors God and degrades youth. We hate the practice, because we love the people it dehumanizes.

Ike any sinner, the homosexual youth needs to face the problem, to want to change and then to change.

In other words: "I'm a sinner. I'm tired of sin. I'm through with sin." That is repentance. Anything less is merely playing games.

We must turn to God from sin, and the way to God is through Jesus Christ. The solution to sin, including the sin of homosexuality, is the blood of Jesus. We cannot save ourselves. Christ alone can save us, and He *will* if we surrender to Him in faith.

Jesus Christ can deliver any person from homosexuality, help that person establish a positive sexual identity and orientation consistent with his or her natural sexuality, and give that person true acceptance with self, with society, and (most of all) with God.

After stating that homosexuals shall not inherit the kingdom of God, the Bible goes on to declare triumphantly, "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11).

That is the good news. When we surrender unconditionally to Jesus Christ, He blots out our sins—whatever they are—and makes us pure and clean. If you let Him, He will change you into the person you really can be and want to be—a new you in Jesus Christ. ☩

One of the world's strangest memorials stands in Baden-werder, West Germany, to commemorate a man known as the "most famous liar." A weird-looking fountain graven in stone, it depicts a man sitting on half of a horse, out of which water pours into a basin.

The man this fountain honors was Baron Karl Friedrich von Munchausen, who became famous during the 1700's for his outlandish tall tales. One of his most ridiculous stories was that during the Turkish wars he had ridden half a horse to victory. His wild exaggerations made such a hit with the people of Germany that a book was published about them.

Now, that deceased baron may have told some outlandish tales—but they were so far out that all they did was make people laugh. Unfortunately, the little lies we tell ourselves are not so funny!

How do we lie to ourselves? We do that when we assure ourselves that some borderline things we are doing are "not really so bad." Well, perhaps some things aren't. But the problem with us is our hearts: our hearts are liars!

Jeremiah 17:9 says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

So when we want to do something that appeals to our flesh, our hearts are quick to come up with a lying rationalization: "It's okay, it's not so bad. Other people do things that are a lot worse. Everybody's doing it!"

As Baron von Munchausen claimed to do, we try to straddle half a horse: the scruffy-looking nag of lukewarm Christianity. Unfortunately, it carries us to defeat as a Christian, rather than to victory. We may go down in a blaze of humiliation.

Before we accept the lies our obligingly deceitful hearts come up with, it would be well to test our rationalizations by three biblical principles:

"Be ye holy" (1 Peter 1:15); "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22); and "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Even some of the most dedicated Christians may sometimes forget the principles of righteous living in God's Word and start lying to themselves in a given situation. That's why we need to keep reading God's Word and stay in communication with our Lord at all times. His Spirit will convict us of our phony baloney and will remind us that God has one plan for our lives: to conform us to the image of His Son (Romans 8:29). 



Phony Baloney

By Muriel Larson

STANDING ON THE PROMISES

By Everek R. Storms

The Holy Scriptures contain a grand total of 8,810 promises. Almost all of them apply to young people as well as the old. How do I know about the number of those promises? I counted them.

All my life I have seen various figures quoted as to the number of promises in the Bible; the one most generally given is 30,000.

Since this is a round number with four zeros to it, I have always been a little suspicious about it. Furthermore, since there are only 31,101 verses in the Bible, it would mean that there would be practically one promise for every verse.

I do not guarantee my count to be perfect, but it is the most accurate that I know of.

The Bible contains eight kinds of promises. There are 7,487 promises that God has given to man. This is about 85 percent of all the promises in the Bible.

There are almost 1,000 instances recorded—991 to be exact—in which one person makes a promise to another person. This is some 11 percent of all the promises in the Scriptures. An example is the promise made by the Chaldeans to King Nebuchadnezzar: "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation of it" (Daniel 2:7).

There are also 290 promises made by man to God. The majority of these—235 of them—are to be found in the Book of Psalms, such as "O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise" (Psalm 51:15).

There are twenty-eight promises that were made by angels. Most of these—twenty-three of them—are found in Luke. One example is the promise made by the angel to the women at Jesus' tomb: "Behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him" (Matthew 28:7).

There are actually nine promises made by that old liar, the devil; for example, "All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me" (Matthew 4:9).

Two promises were made by an evil spirit in 2 Chronicles 18:20, 21. One of them reads, "Then there came out a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, I will entice him."

There are also two promises made by God the Father to God the Son, and one made by a man to an angel.

One of the sixty-six books of the Bible—Titus—has no promises at all. Seventeen others contain less than ten promises each. Even such an outstanding book as Ephesians has only six promises.

The New Testament has 1,104 promises; the Old

Testament, 7,706. This means that seven out of every eight promises are to be found in the Old Testament. As a young person, you cannot afford to skip the Old Testament when you read your Bible.

Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel have over 1,000 promises each—a total of 3,086 in the three books or more than one-third (35 percent) of all the promises in the Bible. Most of them are of a prophetic nature: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

Many verses have more than one promise. Here is a verse with four: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

The chapter with the most promises is Deuteronomy 28. These 133 promises refer to the blessings and cursings that God promised the Israelites when they would reach Canaan, according to whether they obeyed or disobeyed His commands.

A somewhat similar chapter is Leviticus 26, which has ninety-four promises—three-fourths of all the promises in the book.

The most outstanding chapter, as far as promises are concerned, is Psalm 37.

Practically every verse in it is a most precious promise. Here are some of these forty-three wonderful promises:

"Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart" (verse 4).

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (verse 5).

"The meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace" (verse 11).

Last year I read the Bible through for the fifty-third time; but the time when I read it and counted the promises was one of the most precious. Time after time I have had to agree with Solomon: "There hath not failed one word of all his good promise" (1 Kings 8:56).

The question as to which are the greatest promises is one about which there would be a difference of opinion. But if

"There hath not failed one word of all his good promise"
(1 Kings 8:56)

I were permitted to claim only six promises, I would choose the following:

The promise of salvation: "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).

The promise of the Holy Spirit: "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8).

The promise of answered prayer: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

The promise of temporal help: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

The promise of sustaining strength: "As thy days, so shall thy strength be" (Deuteronomy 33:25).

The promise of heaven: "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:3).

These are perilous times for young people. But the reply that Judson gave his mission board when they inquired about the prospects for the future in Burma is still true for all of us: "The future is as bright as the promises of God."

You can count on the promises of God. Why not try some of them and see for yourself? 

ALAN CLIBURN PHOTO



The Bible tells us of many people who were mighty men or blessed women, who, in their own time and place, were considered heroes or heroines. In 2 Samuel 23, they are listed by name and a brief look at their deeds is given. Hebrews tells us of many whose lives were examples of faith and daring, who are not even mentioned by name (Hebrews 11:33-40). But they were, no doubt, known among their friends as faithful people. These all belong to the company of the unknown—the unsung; yet, they were the heroes of the faith to the small circle of friends and families who knew them.

For reasons unknown to us, but known to the Father, He ordained them to live in this small circle—to be known by name inside a very limited acquaintance.

Such are the kind of people that form the backdrop for my early religious training. Though I cannot tell their names or describe their faces, I can see them in my memory with shining faces uplifted and hands raised before the Lord.

Around a makeshift altar on a tattered, secondhand carpet they prayed with tears, speaking to God of the joys, sorrows, hopes, and fears that filled their innermost thoughts. And

this was as natural as could be, because He was their dearest friend. He understood their anguish over wayward children, unemployment, sicknesses with no remedies, and a war that demanded the lives of their sons.

Poorly educated but pure in heart, they turned to God's Word. Hungry for righteousness, they sought Him and He fed them.

And they cared—cared for one another: sharing their dinners at the city park as one of the few forms of entertainment for people with large

ROHN ENGH PHOTO



families and small incomes; eating together almost every Sunday afternoon in someone's home, modestly furnished, but rich in love and good will; and doing for each other, never expecting a return, but always knowing that if things got tough a friend would be there to help.

Sitting on rickety old wooden folding chairs, mothers who ceaselessly labored all week long to clothe, feed, and care for a large family of children would lift their voices to sing. They were not songs of prodigal selfishness for their share of this world's goods, nor were they heartless songs of professional perfectionism which spoke of a joy the writers never knew. But they were songs born in the night of trial, shaped by adversity, empowered with faith, and full of love.

They were songs which testified that they could accept and rise above the circumstances they had to live with each day because they understood—really understood—that they were pilgrims and that their Heavenly Father had prepared a better dwelling for them.

And every memory is filled with singing. For while those heroes of the faith were unsung, they passed this way singing. ☩

THEY PASSED THIS WAY SINGING

By Paul D. Spence



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The Youth and Christian Education activities for the Fifty-seventh General Assembly provide for total involvement of the church family. Special events have been planned for children, teens, young adults, pastors, teachers, district directors, state youth board members, superintendents, and laymen. These functions will support the "Onward Together" theme of the Assembly and will focus attention on the continuation of the togetherness emphasis and spirit.

I would like for you to study the different activities that will be sponsored and make definite plans to attend. Tickets to the meal functions must be purchased prior to the General Assembly from your state director. This practice is necessary in order to reserve sufficient space and to arrange for catering. Please support the Youth and Christian Education program for the General Assembly with your prayers, your enthusiastic promotion, and your personal plans.

FLOYD D. CAREY
GENERAL DIRECTOR

MONDAY

Pastors Seminar—"Youth Crisis Intervention"

Time—2:00-5:00 p.m.

Registration and Materials—\$2.00

District Directors Banquet

Time—5:45-7:30 p.m.

Ticket—\$4.50

Music Festival

Time—8:00-10:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Teen Talent Competition

Art

Bible

Music

Action Rallies

Peacemakers

Time—7:30-9:00 p.m.

Children

Time—10:00-12:00 noon
7:30- 9:00 p.m.

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lies (2)—Children
lt Fellowship
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2.00

DAY

nt
lies (2)—Children
ctors Fellowship
0:00-11:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

Teen Talent
Action Rallies (2)—Children
State Youth Board Members Luncheon
Time—12:00 noon
Ticket—\$4.50
Youth Ice Cream Festival (Teens)
Time—10:00 p.m.
Ticket—\$2.00

SATURDAY

Action Rallies (2)—Children
Teachers Luncheon
Time—12:00 noon
Ticket—\$4.50
Teen Talent Awards Festival
Time—8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY

Superintendents Breakfast
Time—8:00-9:30 a.m.
Ticket—\$3.50
World Missions Emphasis
Youth Night Service
Time—5:00 p.m.

MONDAY

State Directors Training Session

ASE TICKETS FOR MEAL FUNCTIONS FROM YOUR STATE DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ACTION

NEWS & VIEWS

by Lucille Walker

GALLUP YOUTH SURVEY

Recently 1,087 teenagers were queried about the new birth. The following questions were asked: "Would you say that you have been 'born again' or have had a 'born again' experience—that is, a turning point in your life when you committed yourself to Christ?" (IF YES: Was this a sudden conversion experience or a more gradual experience?) "Have you ever tried to encourage someone else to believe in Jesus Christ or to accept Him as his, or her, Savior?"

Of the national response, 33 percent said they had been "born again." Among Protestants, 46 percent; among Catholics, 22 percent. This compares with the adults: Protestants, 48 percent; Catholics, 18 percent. Results were almost equal between boys and girls.

Seven in ten (71 percent) said they had tried to encourage someone else to believe in Jesus Christ or to accept Him as his or her Savior.

TEEN TALENT REMINDERS

Bible Division: February to May 1—Regional and state competition. State winners submitted to the General Department by June 5.

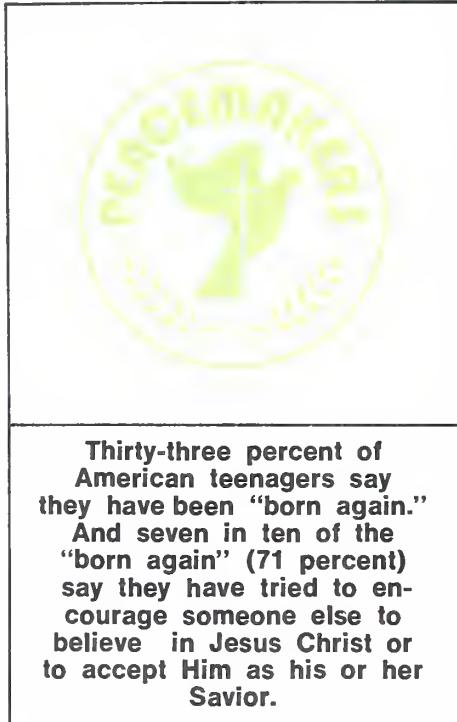
Writing Division: March 1—All manuscripts to be sent to the state office. State winning manuscripts to be sent with photographs to the General Department by May 1.

Art Division: February to May 1—Regional and state competition. State winners submitted to the General Department by June 5.

Music Division: February to May 1—Regional and state competition. State winners submitted to the General Department by June 5.

NEW JERSEY LAUNCHES YOUTH IDENTITY PROGRAM

"Response was tremendous to the three regional seminars conducted in



Thirty-three percent of American teenagers say they have been "born again." And seven in ten of the "born again" (71 percent) say they have tried to encourage someone else to believe in Jesus Christ or to accept Him as his or her Savior.

New Jersey to introduce the new Youth Identity program to youth leaders in local churches," reports John McCloud.

"Some churches had many key leaders present, and most of the churches



Send "Peacemakers Action News & Views" articles to Lucille Walker, Dept. of Y&CE, Keith at 25th Street, Cleveland TN 37311

in New Jersey were represented by at least one person."

The state director and state youth board members directed the seminars and provided materials to all the representatives in attendance.

Since the introduction of the program, there has been increasing excitement among the youth all over the state.

Ray Wiggs of the northern district conducted a three-day Peacemaker/Peace Cadet District Rally. The first day's focus was on child evangelism, with the McCloud family and their Muppet friends. The second day featured an outstanding banquet meeting. The third and final day was a time of special activities, special prayer, and worship.

"Our youth have found their place; and we, the leaders, are thrilled at their tremendous response," says John O. McCloud, state director.

LOUISIANA CELEBRATES NATIONAL YOUTH EMPHASIS

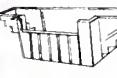
Five churches reported special activities: Dove Park, Elysian Fields, Kentwood, North Acadian, Shepherds Fold. These and other churches sent in contributions to the Louisiana College Scholarship Fund.

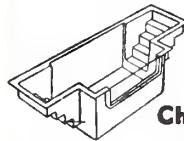
At Elysian Fields, according to the church reporter, "Peacemakers led the congregation in worship experiences and served in the overall functions of the Sunday school and church in one-day honorary positions. It proved to be a time of real growth for the youth, who learned much about the operation of our church."

Kentwood also used Peacemakers as leaders in the Sunday school and in morning and evening worship services. Other activities included the study of *Living by the Word*, participation in tract distribution, a Bible read-a-thon, and youth fellowship.

—Gary Tygart, state director

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Keynotes

Mary Morris, an accomplished musician, is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of a Church of God pastor.

By Mary S. Morris

WHAT TO EXPECT IN COLLEGE MUSIC CLASSES (Part I)

When a young person is preparing to go to college, it is one of the most exciting times in his life. In his mind he wonders what college level courses will be like as compared to his high school classes. He also wonders if he will succeed—barely, adequately, or admirably—in completing requirements for each course, ultimately leading to a college degree. Schopenhauer said, "Man takes the limits of his own field of vision for the limits of the world." A college freshman is aware of this truism, but he desires to expand his own vision—and thusly his world—by attending college.

Musical people like to continue some musical activities and/or studies when they arrive on campus. Many seek to declare music as a major in their studies. Whether you are interested in taking just one or two courses in college music or you have decided to concentrate on becoming

a music major, you need to be aware of the different types of music courses from which you will choose.

Most college music courses are either class-performance or class-study oriented. Courses in performance will include not only participation in performing groups (such as choir, orchestra, or band), but also the study of applied music. Applied music is so called, because one applies the knowledge learned in music study to an actual performing situation. Almost any college will offer applied lessons, especially in piano and voice. Most liberal arts colleges offer applied lessons in other instruments as well. Applied lessons are given privately (more expensive in cost) or in classes, where two or more people are taught at the same time. Some students prefer to begin their applied music experience in classes until sufficient technique has been acquired to make the private study financially worthwhile. Music

majors, however, may be required to take private applied lessons during their entire tenure at college, or at least during their last two years.

Some performance-oriented classes may require an audition before entering. This is true particularly when a certain level of proficiency is a minimum requirement for entrance. Some classes also have imposed an enrollment limitation that requires entrance by audition. One should check the college catalog for course entrance requirements.

In performance-oriented classes, a student must prepare himself for the next class by practicing diligently. Performing group practice sessions are called rehearsals, and a college music student must put in many more hours in rehearsal than he gets college credit. For example, a student member of the college orchestra should expect to rehearse from three to five hours a week (or more, closer to the time of public performance) and may only receive one credit hour per semester. Similarly, a student taking a class or private voice lesson may have a one hour or one-half hour weekly lesson, but must practice five or more hours a week to be ready for the next lesson. He may receive only one credit hour each semester.

Each college sets up the number of credit hours per class and the number of meetings per week the student is to attend. Each music department may be set up somewhat differently to meet its own needs, but the general concept of rehearsing more hours than the number of credit hours received by the student is the same everywhere. ☑

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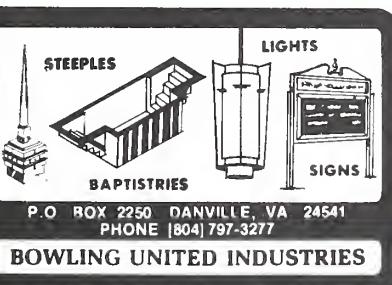
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Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education

"THINKING BIG FOR GOD" IS A NATURAL PART OF YOUR CHRISTIAN LIFE-STYLE. HOW CAN YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY "THINK BIG" IN RELATIONSHIP TO DEVELOPING THEIR TALENTS, TO LIVING VICTORIOUSLY, AND TO CLAIMING GOD'S PROMISES?

Thinking big is dependent upon thinking right. If big thinking isn't based on the truth, then it is foolishness.

David is an excellent example of a young person who wanted to do great things. Because he wanted to do it for God and for God's people, his ambition never took on the negative aspect of selfishness. David thought big because he was ambitious. He thought right because he knew God's Word. He accomplished much because he was dedicated.

Victorious living is a popular subject of preaching and writing. We are sometimes dismayed to discover that small things can rob us of victory. If we then allow the problem to become a focal point in our thinking, the problem grows. The key to victory is to think about the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the answer. Entrust every problem to Him. Don't dwell on the problem; dwell on the answer.

Which one of God's promises do you need most? That's the one to which you should stake your claim. Read what the Bible says about it. Faith is imparted to you from the Word. Now pray and ask God to make this particular promise a reality in your life. Then stake your claim. Every time you think about it, thank God for the truth and reality of that promise in your life. As soon as that claim has been fully realized, move on to the next promise in the same fashion.

IN WHAT WAYS CAN CHURCH OF GOD YOUNG PEOPLE TAKE A POSITIVE STAND FOR JUSTICE, DECENTY, AND HONESTY IN TODAY'S SOCIETY?

First, discover the excitement of regularly studying the Bible under the tutelage of the Holy Spirit. That will renew your mind. Then God can transform your life, and you will actually be God's proof in this world. (See Romans 12:1, 2.)

Conformity to the Word will compel us to stand for justice, decency, and honesty. An overflowing love will make our stand positive and even attractive to others. Even though some young people challenge every rule and



Carl Richardson, minister of "Forward in Faith," is a dynamic church leader. He is heard on over 400 radio stations every week.

test every wall, they really are pleased to find some that stand. God wants you to be custodian of that loving evidence for your generation.

AS A TEENAGER, WHAT WAS YOUR GREATEST SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL JOY?

A regular and dependable source of joy is worship. Daily personal devotions and regular church participation are vital to the growing Christian.

I would have to say that the greatest amount of joy in my life has always come from being meaningfully involved with God's work—the work of helping others. Every young Christian will have the chance to make a beautiful discovery. That is, when you are used of God to help someone, your joy will match that of the person being helped. Remember, you have to share the problems if you want to share the victories.

By spiritual sensitivity to the needs of others we can be an open channel through which God works. Every problem can be an opportunity for you. Spiritual joy is the normal consequence for you and for the person in need. Go find a need and fill it; find a hurt and heal it.

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My BROKEN Marriage



JOHN HUOSON TINER PHOTO

Anonymous

Recently I came across one of the first Bibles I ever owned—a simple five-and-ten King James Version, long since replaced by a fine Scofield and various other versions. Of course, it was interesting to leaf through, to note underlined passages, and to recall many long-forgotten milestones along the way of growth in grace.

But there was also another signpost. When I came to the family register between the Testaments, an object seemed to leap out at me; and what a tragedy it told. It was the white flower I had worn so proudly on my wedding night. Somebody had suggested that it should be pressed and preserved in the Bible as a memento.

The flattened, faded flower was, of course, only a ghost of its former beauty. But it symbolized a marriage that had started so well, yet ended so badly.

It had been a whirlwind courtship after a church meeting, and yet it had all seemed so exquisitely wonderful then. Surely, for us, those classic words "We were meant for each other" were true.

But it was not long until difficulties arose; and incompatibilities, slight at first, mounted. Like the root of bitterness mentioned in Hebrews 12:15, our problems had a small start but a rapid growth.

We both had known the Lord and had sought to walk with Him and even to work for Him, however imperfectly. Yet every success in our relationship, partial at best, was overshadowed by a latter failure, resulting in one temporary separation after another.

Eventually, the much-mended marriage fabric gave way completely; separation became permanent. Later, a divorce decree ended it all.

Like the rush of a cold wind, memories returned. I fought back the tears as I relived those long, hard days of hope and heartache, trial and triumph, only to see it all swept away. I thought of the poignant words of the popular song "Indian Summer": "You see so many dreams that don't come true; dreams we fashioned when summer time was new."

The faded flower had long since lost its beauty, refuting John Keats' poetic expression: "A thing of beauty is a joy forever." Oceans of tears could never return life to the flower—or to restore a relationship equally dead.

But it does no present good to bemoan the sorry past. Rather, now is the time to forget "those things which are behind" (Philippians 3:13). Remember the glorious promise in the Word: "My grace is sufficient for thee" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

I am leaning harder than ever on the everlasting arms.

*Be still, my soul! the Lord
is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of
grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order
and provide;
In every change He faithful
will remain.
Be still, my soul! thy best,
thy heav'nly Friend
Thro' thorny ways leads to a
joyful end.*

—Katharina A. von Schlegel, 1752

SENTENCE COMMENTARIES

By Betty Spence

When I was a girl, the young people of our church were often asked to prepare a "sermonette" for the youth service. The only one of these mini-sermons I remember anything about is Rose Mary's. After reading her Scripture, she said despairingly, "There it is. Get your own points." Then she blushed and sat down.

I recalled this recently while considering sharing with you a collection of single impressions that have come to mind from time to time as I've been reading my Bible. Only key words of Scripture accompany each sentence commentary. It is my hope that you will find here a thought that will help in case you are called on to give a devotion or maybe a "sermonette."

"And the two fishes divided he among them all" (Mark 6:41). God multiplies what we divide.

"It seemeth to me there is as it were a plague in the house" (Leviticus 14:35). Sin spreads from man to his house.

"Discover not a secret to another" (Proverbs 25:9). It is the glory of God to conceal a thing, the glory of man to conceal nothing.

"And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive" (Matthew 21:22). Heaven's zip code is F-A-I-T-H.

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). What better time to consider where you will spend eternity than when you are waiting for a funeral procession to pass.

"Come before his presence with singing" (Psalm 100:2). If you're ready, the King will see you now.

"Be still, and know" (Psalm 46:10). If you are never still, you will never go very far.

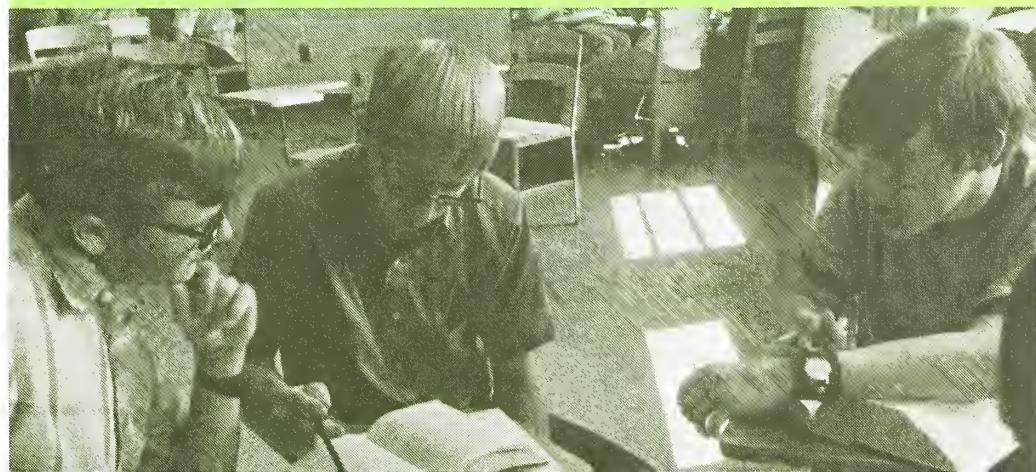
"O Lord? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?" (Psalm 10:1). God hides only in the shadows of our doubts.

"For I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God" (Psalm 43:5). When you need a facial, try praise.

"And it came to pass after this, that Joash was minded to repair the house of the Lord" (2 Chronicles 24:4). I've a good mind to serve the Lord.

"Let us lay aside every weight" (Hebrews 12:1). There comes a time when less is more important. ☺☺☺

SUNRISE PHOTO



HOW TO OVERCOME DOUBT

By Gordon Chilvers

"I was sure I believed in God," said Philip. "But now I'm not so sure.

At home and at Sunday school, I was taught that God created the world. Now college teachers tell us He didn't. I'm all mixed up."

"I naturally had my doubts," said Sylvia, a teenage girl, "when my friend Jack was killed in an automobile accident. We had been going steady, and I really loved him. I wondered why God allowed this to happen to me. I found it hard to believe in God, and especially to believe that He loved Jack and me and wanted the best for us."

Eighteen-year-old Dorothy said: "I've been told by Christian people what I ought to do and ought not to do. Yet, I've found that the people who told me those things didn't follow their own rules. Some of those who say they are Christians act worse than those who aren't. Is it any wonder I have doubts about Christianity?"

"What gave me serious doubts," said college student Carole, "was Jesus telling us that God would answer our prayers, and He didn't. Just before the last exam, I prayed that I might get good grades. I got more C's than B's and A's. Since God didn't help me then, how do I know He'll help me another time?"

Karl, an older youth, added: "I came from a Christian home where we knew only our own particular brand of religion. I'd been taught that we alone were right

and that all other religions were false. But all of the others also claim to be true. Certainly some people who follow them are intelligent and kind people. Now, I'm not sure what to believe."

You need not be surprised when you have doubts and questions. Your questioning what you were taught at home, in Sunday school, or in church is not unusual.

Sincere doubts are not a sin. Great and good men have had their doubts. One of them said: "As for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. . . . They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men" (Psalm 73:2, 3, 5).

Jesus was never alarmed because a person had an honest doubt. His forerunner, John the Baptist, had serious doubts. Doubting can lead a person to find spiritual growth. It can be the raw material for building faith in God.

Questioning is evidence that you are beginning to think for yourself. What happens to you or to your friends can challenge your basic thinking. Tough questions have to be faced. Does God take a keen interest in your life? Does He really care for you? Does He do what the Bible promises He will do?

Even so, doubts can disturb and depress you. While they last, they can cloud your joy, dim your hopes, and undermine your work.

The most important point is not that you have doubts, but what you do with them.

When you have some doubts and questions, don't just ignore them. Recognize them for what they are, and deal with them. Face the doubts. Get them out into the light and examine them fairly and squarely. Then consider your beliefs. You will find that the more carefully you scrutinize them, the more certain you will be of what is right. Christian faith will endure close examination.

Writing down your doubts could be the solution for some of you. Doubts can be just a vague feeling. When I tried to write down my doubts, I began even to doubt some of my doubts. However, I at least knew what was troubling me. It ended my frustration, and I started getting answers to some of my questions.

If you have any serious doubts, take a good hard look at yourself. Doubts can be related to spiritual problems. They may come most often to those who are careless about how they live. To solve your doubts, you have to learn to think straight about spiritual problems. You will never think right about spiritual things if your life is wrong. While you may not be worse than other young people, one or two of your habits may need to be changed. Having made the adjustments, you will see answers to your problems more clearly.

Have you been neglecting personal prayer and Bible reading? Have you missed out on going to

services? If so, make sure that your schedule includes a quiet time each day and that you attend church more regularly. Then these doubts may not bug you anymore.

Get to know Jesus Christ better; get to know Him as a living person with whom you can have a conversation. One youth told me: "I had doubts about my beliefs. I had so much to do and so many people to see that my relationship with the Lord became

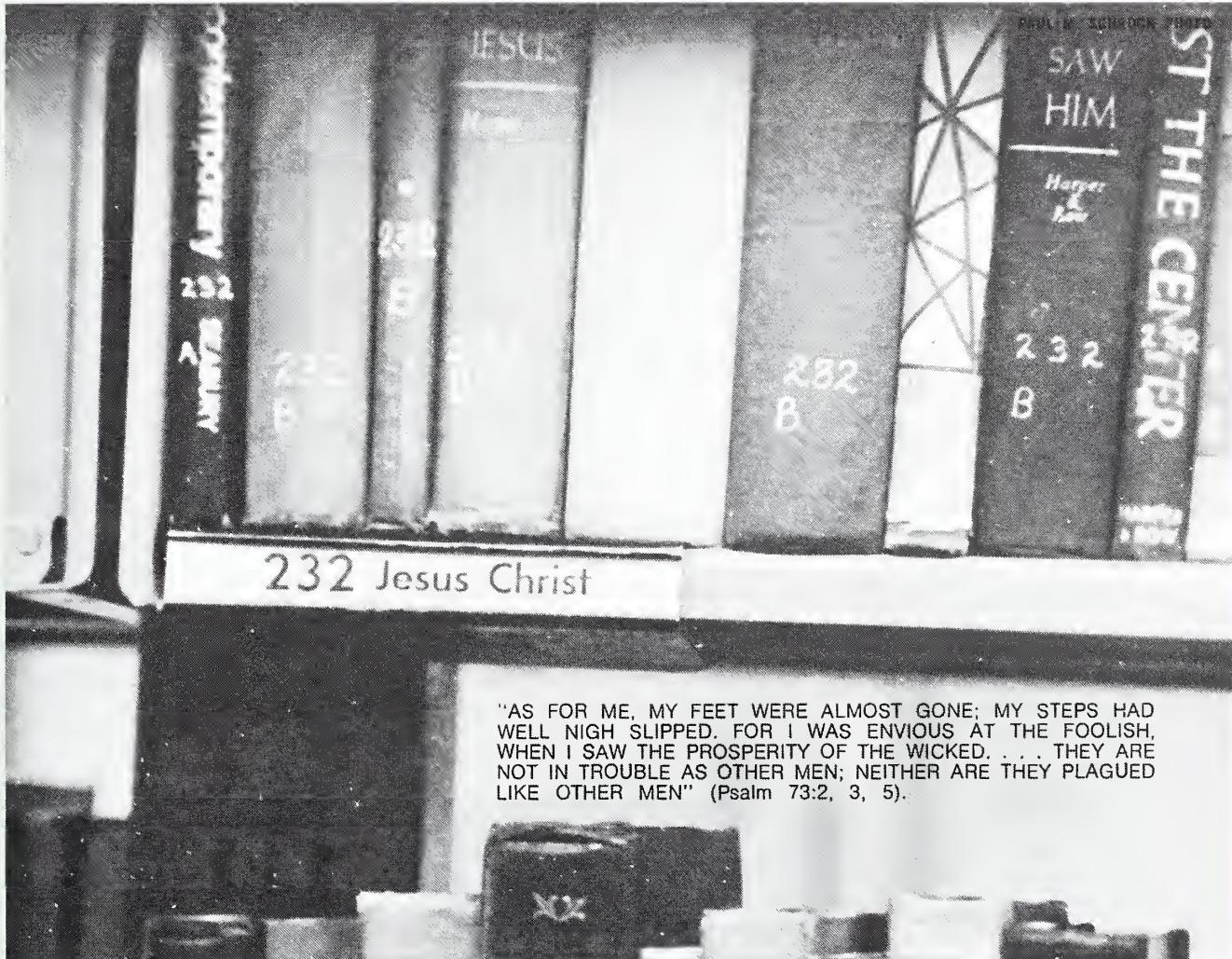
stale. When my relationship with Jesus Christ improved, I found I could tell Him about my doubts. Then my life became quite different. My doubts and questions did not all go at once. Some faded; and for the others, I found answers that satisfied me."

Remember, too, that God has a plan for your life. You may have a plan of your own, and you want to try yours first. But it will never work. Ask God to show you His plan. Try to follow it. You may

not be completely successful at first. Yet, when you do follow His plan, you will have much joy. Life will become more meaningful to you. You will then see God's wisdom and goodness instead of your doubts.

Doubts are serious and should not be pushed to one side. Yet, if you examine them carefully and prayerfully, you will find satisfying answers.

You can take your doubts to the Lord in prayer. Then you will



be able to say with Sir Thomas Browne: "I conquered my doubts on my knees."

Count on your certainties. What are you sure of: That God exists? or that Jesus Christ was Savior? These are the foundations

of your belief. On these foundations you can start to build a satisfying faith as you add one certainty to another.

Remain loyal to the Lord and live as good as you know how. This is essential, especially when

doubts present themselves. You will mature spiritually and will enjoy a more satisfying life because you have resolved your doubts. They have brought you a stronger and more reasoned faith in the Lord. 



DEAD OR ALIVE

Atmospheric tornado is a fearful thing. The destruction around us was a mute testimony to its powerful effects. A small three-year-old boy who had survived the devastation was heard to say, "I was scared, so I prayed three times for God to take care of me." "Why did you pray three times?" his daddy inquired. "Because I didn't want to be dead for the rest of my life," he replied.

His answer might seem a little bit humorous to an older person, but the truth of the matter is that a life lived without Jesus is described as being dead in trespasses and sins. The physical destruction of a tornado that unleashes its fury is small in comparison to the ravages of sin that destroy a human life. The Bible tells us that when sin has run its course, the end result is death. The Bible also says that "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). This means eternal separation from God and His love.

Before accepting Christ at the age of sixteen, I fought many battles in the corridors of my mind. I stood at the forks of the road where I had to decide which direction I

would go. The broad road and its occupants beckoned to me.

"Come join the fun crowd," they shouted. "This is where the action is. It's happening here."

The bright lights, the loud noise, the big crowd—all were enticing. I stood and listened as the inward battle was raging. I wanted to have fun; I wanted to be accepted as part of the group; I was lonely and craved friendship and acceptance. As I stood and listened, my will slowly crumbled. As I started to place my feet on the broad way that would take me to the answer to all my needs and desires, I heard a voice deep within saying, "Don't do it; it's not the right way. It's the way of death. You will be sorry later."

At that moment I had a sud-



H. Armstrong Roberts photo

By Floyd L. McClung

The Reverend Floyd L. McClung pastors the Church of God in Santa Ana, California.

den urge to look in the other direction. There stood Jesus, beckoning to me to come to Him; and I heard Him say, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me . . . and ye shall find rest unto your souls" (Matthew 11:28, 29).

I answered His call and found the peace and happiness that I was searching for. I was born again. My sins were forgiven, and I found myself traveling the highway of life eternal.

Now as I look back, I can understand the critical position that I was in as an impressionable teenager. If I had followed the crowd on the broad way, I would have found what the world calls fun, but it would have been the way of death. I would have been dead all the days of my natural life, because of sin. I would have labored under the burden and guilt of sin, and in the end would have been eternally lost.

In choosing Christ and the narrow way, I do not feel that I have been deprived of anything. Life has had its rough spots, but there is the constant awareness of His abiding presence. To know Him is to love Him, to love Him is to serve Him, and to serve Him brings the greatest joy that life has to offer. The Psalmist David declared, "In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore" (Psalm 16:11). "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19). 

BEWARE OF GOOD LOOKS!

"Some of the best looking youths I have known were ugly..."

Do you know why Lucifer became Satan? Because he did not know how to handle his handsomeness. Most of us do not have the problem of being unusually pretty or handsome, but quite a few of us think we do!

Satan was the highest and most exalted of heaven's created beings. The Bible called him "Lucifer, son of the morning" (Isaiah 14:12), who became Satan when he was cast out of heaven after leading a revolt against God. One-third of the angelic host was thrown out with him and apparently became demons.

The Book of Isaiah gives a graphic picture of Satan (Isaiah 14:12-14). I suggest that you read the reference. You will note that he was a leading heavenly figure, for he was "son of the morning!" Also, Ezekiel gives a clear profile of Satan (Ezekiel 28:12-19). The prophet says that he was "full of wisdom" (v. 12) and "perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created" (v. 15). Also, Satan was "perfect in beauty" (v. 12).

In fact, Satan's good looks became his downfall. Ezekiel points out that "thine heart was lifted up because of thy



beauty" (v. 17). It may come as a surprise to you that Satan's fall came about because of his pride about his good looks. God made him handsome, but Satan failed God by developing a haughty spirit about it.

The Lord wants you and me to be appreciative of our appearance. A dirty face, unkempt hair, or sloppy clothes bring no glory to Him. However, the danger comes when our appearance becomes our sole thought. Some young people literally worship their body, and that is sin.

God did not intend for the handsomeness which he gave Lucifer to become a hindrance to him. Lucifer let

that happen. Beauty or handsomeness can become a blessing or a curse, depending upon what is done with it. Lucifer could not handle his good looks, so he became "lifted up" about it.

Paul warns, "To every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith" (Romans 12:3).

In our society beauty and handsomeness are important, but not all-important. Our friends soon learn to look beyond how we appear, to how we really are. They come to know us by our honesty, fairness, and trustworthiness—or by the lack of these qualities. Some of the best looking youths I have known were ugly, and some of the most homely were beautiful.

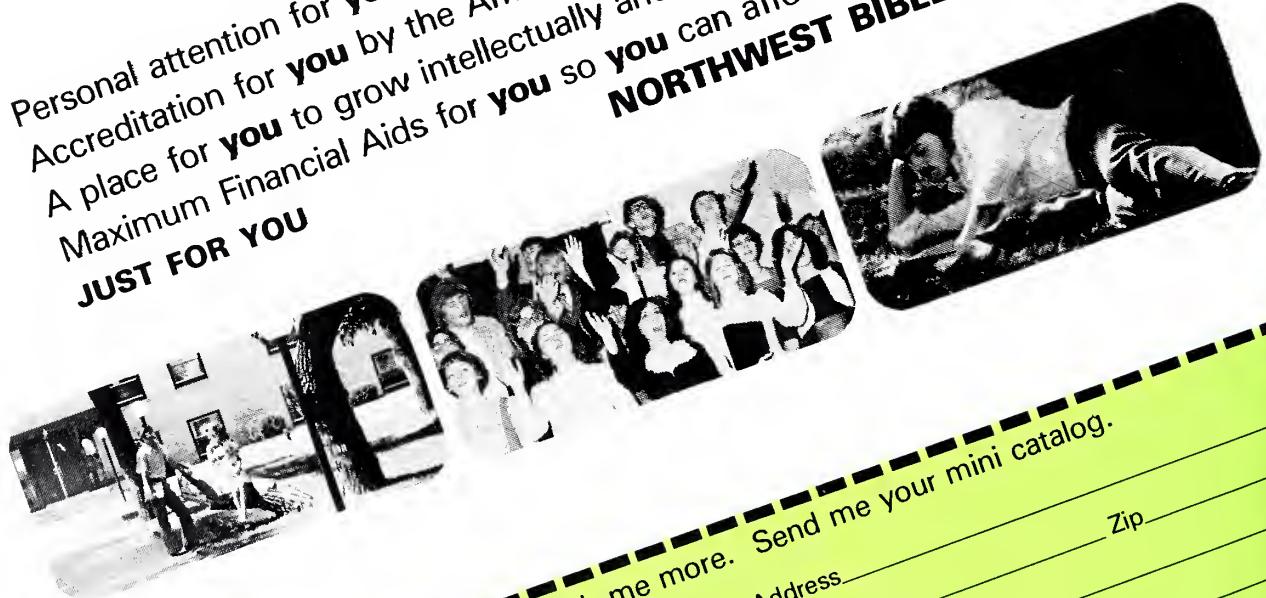
So, you may be handsome like Lucifer, or you may be the opposite. It really does not matter. The thing that counts is whether all that you are—including your appearance, your ability, and your potential—is completely committed to God. Satan failed to make that commitment, and it became his utter undoing.



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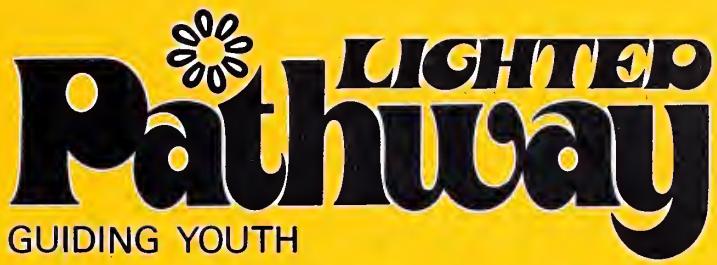
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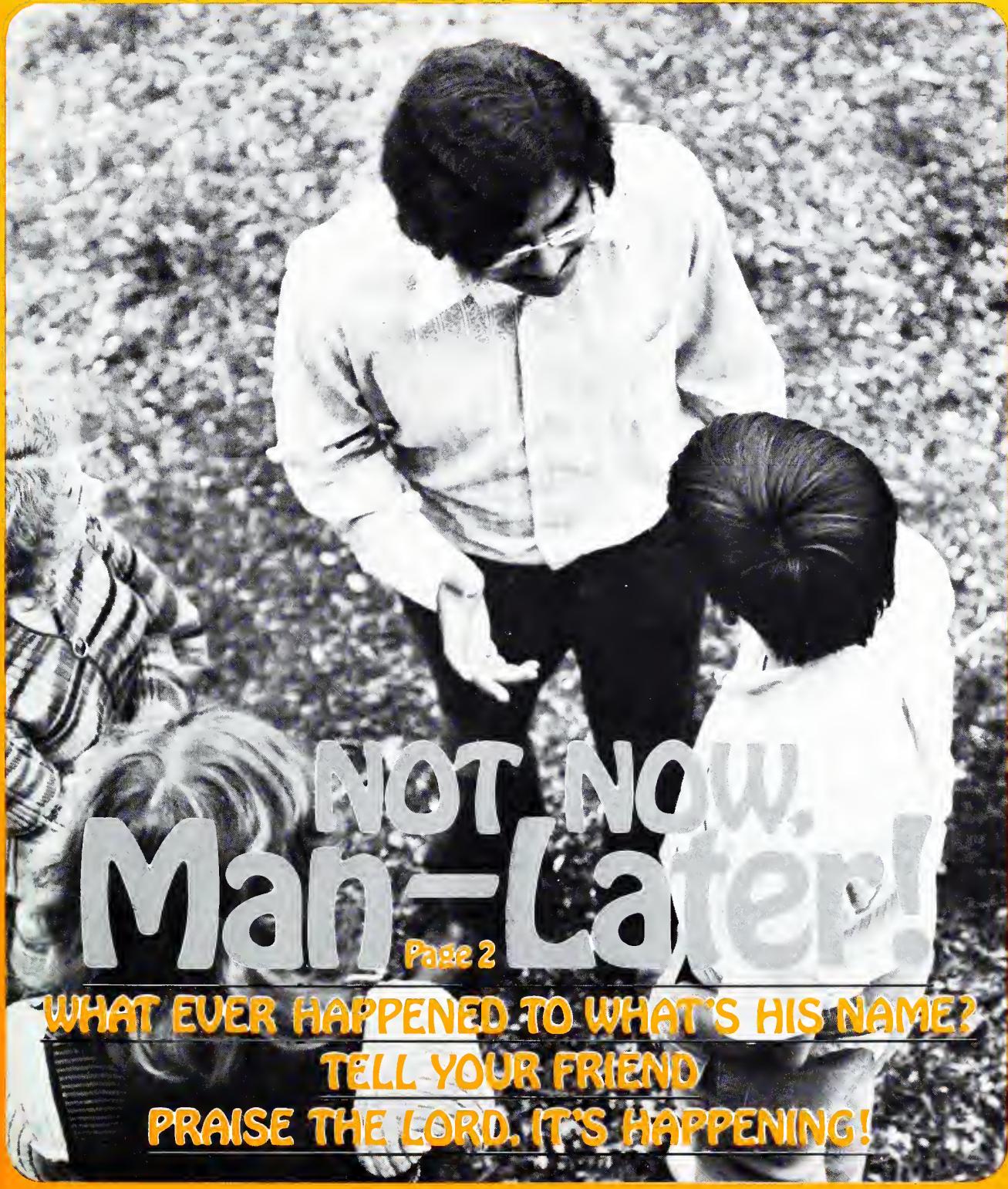


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Page 2

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO WHAT'S HIS NAME?
TELL YOUR FRIEND
PRAISE THE LORD. IT'S HAPPENING!

LIGHTED Pathway

GUIDING YOUTH

May, 1978

Volume 49, Number 5

CONTENTS

- 2** Not Now, Man—Later!
By Randy Travis
- 5** What Ever Happened to What's His Name?
By Paul E. Duncan
- 6** Tell Your Friend
By J. E. DeVore
- 8** Praise the Lord, It's Happening!
- 10** Experienced
By Debbie Milligan
- 11** My Mother
By Winnie L. Carey
- 12** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 13** Thanks, Mom
By Deborah Patterson
- 14** Truthway
- 16** Pathway Pointers
- 18** Keynotes
By Mary S. Morris
- 20** Plan for Summer Fun
- 22** National Success
- 24** Young People at Work in Central America
- 26** Call of the Master
By Larry D. Pemberton
- 27** Desk of the Editor

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Do you believe in God?"
"Of course!"
"How about Jesus?"
"Sure. Well, sort of."

"Have you ever accepted Him as Savior and Lord?"

"No, not yet. But I will."

"What are you waiting for?"

"Listen, man, I'm young. I want to have a little fun. Life is too short to spend half of it sitting in some church singing hymns."

"We don't spend half our lives that way."

"Okay, maybe not. But there are a lot of things Christians can't do, aren't there?"

"Well, the Bible says—"

"See, there you go! Rules and regulations! I don't want anybody telling me what to do! I'm gonna live."

"But if you believe in Jesus—"

"See, that's the neat part.

When I get older and sort of poop out, then I'll accept Jesus as my Savior and join a church and all that stuff. But not now, man—later."

* * * *

Sound familiar? You may not hear those exact words on a regular basis, but that is exactly what many people are telling the world every day through their actions. Occasionally they'll even put it into words, something like, "Christianity is for 'old fogies,' not for healthy young people with their whole lives before them. What's the rush anyway?"

What is the rush? The Bible makes that pretty clear when it says: "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2), and "My spirit shall not always strive with man" (Genesis 6:3).

This point was brought home to me in a real way just last night. A friend of mine was telling of a neighbor he has been



by Randy Travis

witnessing to for quite some time who haven't made a decision.

"Not now," would come the reply. "Later."

That neighbor is in the hospital as I write this, dying of cancer. He has possibly a week or ten days left at the very most, but is still quite coherent. My friend went to visit with him in

the hospital and again went through the plan of salvation.

The neighbor was a bit more receptive than he had been before and seemed to understand what was involved. He knew that by surrendering his life to Jesus right then, he could have eternal life.

"Can you think of any reason

why you wouldn't want to receive Christ into your life right now?" my friend asked.

This neighbor couldn't think of a single reason.

"Wouldn't you like to know that whatever happens to you, you will be in heaven for all eternity?" (CONTINUED) ▶▶

NOT NOW, MAN—LATER!

/ CONTINUED



Again the neighbor gave a positive reply.

"Good. I'll say a prayer; and if the words I say express what's on your heart, you repeat them."

My friend bowed his head and began a simple prayer of repentance: "Lord Jesus, I want You to come into my life right now."

Silence.

My friend explained once more that if this was what his neighbor wanted to do, he should repeat the prayer. "Lord Jesus, I want You to come into my life right now," he said again.

No response.

My friend looked at this neighbor, a man dying of cancer, and he could see how tightly his mouth was drawn up in defiance. "Don't you want Jesus to come into your heart?" my friend asked.

"I wouldn't mean it if I said I did," his neighbor admitted. "Why say it if I wouldn't mean it?"

You may wonder what could possibly keep a man whose days are numbered from receiving the free gift of eternal life. He would have nothing to lose and everything to gain!

But his heart was hardened, just as so many hearts were hardened in Jesus' time, despite the miracles and other proofs of His divinity. Perhaps this man has waited too long and will pay for it throughout eternity.

Another friend of mine was always inviting his neighbor across the street to church. They were good friends, but his usual answer was "Not this week. Some other time."

Without warning, the man across the street dropped dead of a heart attack. "Some other

time" simply didn't come for him.

Here in Los Angeles, we seldom pick up a newspaper without reading of one or more persons who expected to live a lot longer than they did. A woman from my church was recently killed as she walked home one Wednesday evening. Fortunately, she was indeed ready to go.

How about you? Have you been putting off a commitment to Christ because you just don't want to tie yourself down to a lot of rules and regulations? Well, first of all, if you think of Christianity that way, you probably aren't ready to accept Christ into your life.

Love is what Christianity is all about, not rules and regulations. There are guidelines in the Bible, yes; but obedience to Christian standards should be motivated by gratitude to the God who has done so much for you. Christianity is the world's biggest bargain; Christians aren't missing out on anything worthwhile—just the opposite, in fact.

I talked to another man last night. This one, although relatively young, has tried everything from the drug scene and transcendental meditation to pre-marital sex without finding happiness.

He accepted Christ just about a month ago and his entire life has changed. Is he happy all the time? No, in fact he's out of work at the moment and still has problems to face. But there is a joy in his life which just wasn't there before. It is evident as you talk to him. He knows Jesus. He has found peace. That makes all the difference.

What are you waiting for?



Every congregation has one like him. He attends youth meetings and goes to Sunday school most of the time. Chances are he has been brought up in a Christian home. His parents have nourished him in the Word and have taught him to honor the church.

He may "play around" with church involvement, sometimes for several years. But, in his rebellion, he forsakes his spiritual heritage and chooses to go his own way. And sooner or later, we hear the inevitable question regarding him: "What ever happened to what's his name?"

Perhaps he had every good intention of surrendering his life to Christ. In his heart he knew what was right. "Someday," he kept telling himself, "I will get it all together." But just then, he was more interested in what was happening at school. Just then, he was more involved with his non-Christian friends who had no time for Christ and His church. So gradually, almost without being consciously aware of it, he became completely cut off from his spiritual upbringing.

How about you, my young friend? Are you one of those who has been in and around the church all your life, but who has rebelled against God? Are you in danger of being taken in by the allurements of this world? Are you near to that time when someone in your church may very well ask, "What ever happened to what's his name?"

While there is yet time, heed the voice of the Lord: "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil. . . . Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it" (Isaiah 1:16, 18-20). 

Paul E. Duncan is dean of students at Lee College.

I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me (Isaiah 1:2).



MAX THARPE PHOTO

What Ever Happened to What's His Name?

by Paul E. Duncan



TELL YOUR FRIEND

by J. E. DeVore

Youth reaching youth for Christ is youth evangelism! A young soulwinner said, "I wouldn't walk across the street for man-made religion, but I'd go around the world for this God-given gospel." Why? Because the "gospel-of-Christ way" is the only way.

Someone has said, "Buddha isn't the way. Hari Krishna isn't the way. Muhammad isn't the way. Mr. Moon isn't the way. You've got to go beyond the moon and get to the Son!" Our Lord Jesus Christ is "the Son of God with power." Getting people saved is getting them to the Savior (Acts 4:12).

The Son of God "gave . . . some evangelists" (Ephesians 4:11). Every Christian is called to the work of winning souls. To evangelize is to gossip "the gospel of Christ . . . the power

of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16).

To evangelize is to reach for the lost with a burning compassion, with a constraining love. When I think of evangelism, I think of Calvary. Our Lord died a young man, seventeen years short of fifty; but He lived long enough to kindle a fire that has refused to go out for nearly two thousand years.

He was speaking of evangelism when He said to His blood-purchased church, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8). Young Timothy received this Spirit "of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7) to "do the work of an evangelist" (2 Timothy 4:5).

He was urged by Paul to be "an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity,

in spirit, in faith, in purity," and to "give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine," for the purpose of saving himself and others (1 Timothy 4:12, 13, 16). This too is a part of the work of evangelism. Youth education and youth evangelism must walk hand in hand together *in the power of the Spirit*. To have soul-winning power with God we must study to show ourselves approved. We must wait on the Lord. We must occupy in prayer.

And youth evangelism will be weak, worthless, ineffective if a person is not endued with authority from heaven (Luke 24:49). There will be no true and lasting results without the anointing (1 John 2:20, 27; Jude 1:20-25). Our crucified and risen Lord "is the saving strength of his anointed" (Psalm 28:8). He has called His anoint-

**Let no man despise thy youth
(1 Timothy 4:12).**
**Do the work of an evangelist
(2 Timothy 4:5).**

ed "to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth" (2 Thessalonians 2:13). It's getting young people to believe the truth that brings them from darkness to light.

Many young people are under a heavy yoke of bitter bondage. They're "as a wild bull in a net" (Isaiah 51:20). They need the anointing that shatters the shackles of Satan (Isaiah 10:27). They're in a net of drug addiction, or promiscuity, or perversion. Even many little children are now trapped in a net of cigarette smoke.

Many young people need a Holy Ghost mouthwash, a Holy Ghost handwash, a Holy Ghost eyewash, and a Holy Ghost heartwash! James said, "Lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted

word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21). Paul said that we should "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1).

And so, beloved Christian young people, youth evangelism is sharing this "excellent oil" anointing with your unsaved contemporaries (Psalm 141:5). A youth who would reach lost peers must be pure himself (1 Timothy 5:22).

The Calvary-born youth is free from his sins. He doesn't have to practice sin ever again. He isn't haughty about his holiness. But with holy boldness he humbly tells others that when the Son of God sets you free, you're free indeed. And that's the message of youth evangelism. That's joy unspeakable. That's peace that goes beyond all human understanding and misunderstanding. That's power

H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS PHOTO



over all the power of that old enemy of our eternal souls.

Youth reaching adults for Christ is also youth evangelism. "A little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6). A youth was saved at fifteen. His parents were opposed. Years later while that young man was preaching a revival in Findlay, Ohio, he received a letter from his mother in which she said, "Son, I'm saved. I've given my heart to the Lord. And I'm seeking the baptism of the Holy Ghost."

A little girl prayed, "Lord, save my dad." The years passed by. She kept on praying, "Lord, save my dad." When he was sixty he was saved. "By all means . . . save some." Youth for Christ, we can't reach them all, but let's reach all we can.

J. E. DeVore is a national evangelist for the Church of God.



FLOYD CAREY:

Brother Knight, I am rejoicing about what God is doing among and through our young people. I have been praying for this kind of action. Without question, there is an obvious moving of God's Spirit today among Church of God young people around the world.



BROTHER KNIGHT:

Yes, you are right. In my travels throughout the church, not only here in the United States but also in foreign countries, I can see God's hand upon our youth.

It happens that just last Sunday I was in the fifty-third Annual Convention in Jamaica. In his address, the head of the government remarked twice how strongly populated the audience was with young people. I am sure that 40 to 50 percent of the congregation was under twenty-five years of age.

Young people around the world are responding to the move of the Holy Spirit in what we feel is the last-day revival. Youth are part of this revival—an integral part, and they are playing a very important role in the total ministry of the church. May I add that the Youth Department has certainly played a great part in providing a challenge to the young people of the church.

I have been going to Germany for many years for seminars and camp meetings. Last summer, I had the privilege of preaching there on Youth Day. I had been told that the young people in Germany were not as responsive to the gospel and to church emphases as some of the other countries, but that is no longer true.

We had over a thousand in attendance in that meeting, and the altars were packed at the close of the service. I saw a strong response from young people. They were literally changing the old image of slow response to a dynamic progressiveness. It was evident that they were determined to live victoriously for Christ and to move forward and obey the Great Commission to reach today's world.

Outside the United States where traditions and cultures are different, adults are now accepting youth and their ministry in the church. There was a time in some cultures when young people were held back and were forced to go through a long period of testing and discipline. That proved to be a detriment to the work of the church as it related to young people. Now, however, in the cultures that I've been in outside the United States, the adult generation, for the most part, has gotten a new vision of what youth can do.

Praise the Lord, IT'S HAPPENING!

An interview with the Reverend Cecil B. Knight, general overseer of the Church of God. Floyd D. Carey is general director of youth and Christian education, and Clyne W. Buxton is editor of the Lighted Pathway.



The editor and Brother Knight discuss an old issue of the *Lighted Pathway*. Brother Knight states that during his teenage years the magazine was a constant source of strength and encouragement to him.



CLYNE BUXTON:

As a former state director and then as editor of the *Lighted Pathway* for the past sixteen years, I have observed the involvement of young people in local church outreach activities. Youth have been a vital part of the phenomenal growth of the Church of God.



BROTHER KNIGHT:

The Church of God is certainly enjoying a wonderful position in church growth. Statistics show that we may be the fastest growing church in America, and we praise the Lord for it. The harvest is great, and the church is responsive to the opportunity of the hour. When I speak of "the church," I mean everybody of all ages who are laboring in the vineyard. That includes our youth, for the Church of God has always emphasized the vital role of young people. The motto that states "You must use youth or lose them" has been the belief of our church for many years.

YOUTH!



As a result of this attitude, the Church of God has a tremendous army of young people. Our youth are involved in whatever type ministry is being stressed. If it is a witnessing crusade, or an inspiration rally, or a sing-a-thon, young people are always out front.

In fact, I feel that the Church of God has provided such an open door for young people to be involved that we know they will be on the cutting edge of church growth and will always be involved in it. An end result is that young people are constantly called into the preaching ministry or called to other special ministries—not only in the United States, but across the world.



CLYNE BUXTON:

You're right, Brother Knight! The involvement and training activities of the Church of God have guided our youth in building self-confidence and in forming clear spiritual goals. I think the key, however, is the fact that our young people are sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.



BROTHER KNIGHT:

Yes, our youth believe in spiritual growth through the power of the Spirit and in evangelizing the world through the power of the Spirit. Our recent church growth campaign had as its theme, "When the Spirit Moves." Nearly one million Church of God members around the world were mobilized for outreach action. Youth were in the vanguard of that campaign.

After a period of worship and Bible study, our young people went out with the rest of the membership "in the power of the Spirit" to do harvest work. They witnessed and gave out literature. They engaged in Bible study and learned more fully what the Bible says about the leadership of the Spirit. Also, youth want to know the biblical correlation between current events and God's Word. They are interested in the end-times, and they are looking in the Book.



FLOYD CAREY:

Our church has grown because of the freshness and drive of our Pentecostal persuasion. Realizing this, we know that the future of the Church of God rests with young people who depend upon the moving of the Spirit.



BROTHER KNIGHT:

I feel that the young people in our church are very serious minded about their part in the Kingdom work. When we look across the church and see the top pastors, missionaries, and outstanding lay leaders, we note that practically all of them were the youth of the church a few years ago. It's been a thrilling and joyful experience of mine to observe our youth over a twenty-year period. Young people who were at youth camp a few years ago are now the leading pastors and leading men and women in the general church and in their community.

I feel that the young people are more attracted now to the life-style of Christ, to the gospel, and to the sensitivity of the Holy Spirit than ever before. I often preach in weekend youth revivals, and it is always encouraging to see the alertness and the responsiveness of young people in an audience. They seem to be the first to step forward. In a commitment service, they're there. And they prove their discipleship not only in their responsiveness in a commitment service, but also in their day-to-day service to Christ and the community.

May I conclude, Brother Carey, by complimenting the Youth and Christian Education Department for its many ministries of involving young people and young adults. When I see retreats and seminars and enrichment opportunities for young adults, it lets me know that the Youth Department does not stop in reaching youth, but you are seeing that they mature and grow spiritually as they become young adults. When they marry, they become young families which live fruitful and meaningful lives. 

EXPERIENCED

by Debbie Milligan

On a quiet, cool, spring day I experienced something—
something very special,
something very real.

I saw "it" while walking through a forest—
on the grass,
in the flowers,
in the trees,
in the sky,
in the rays of the sun,
in the softness of the clouds.

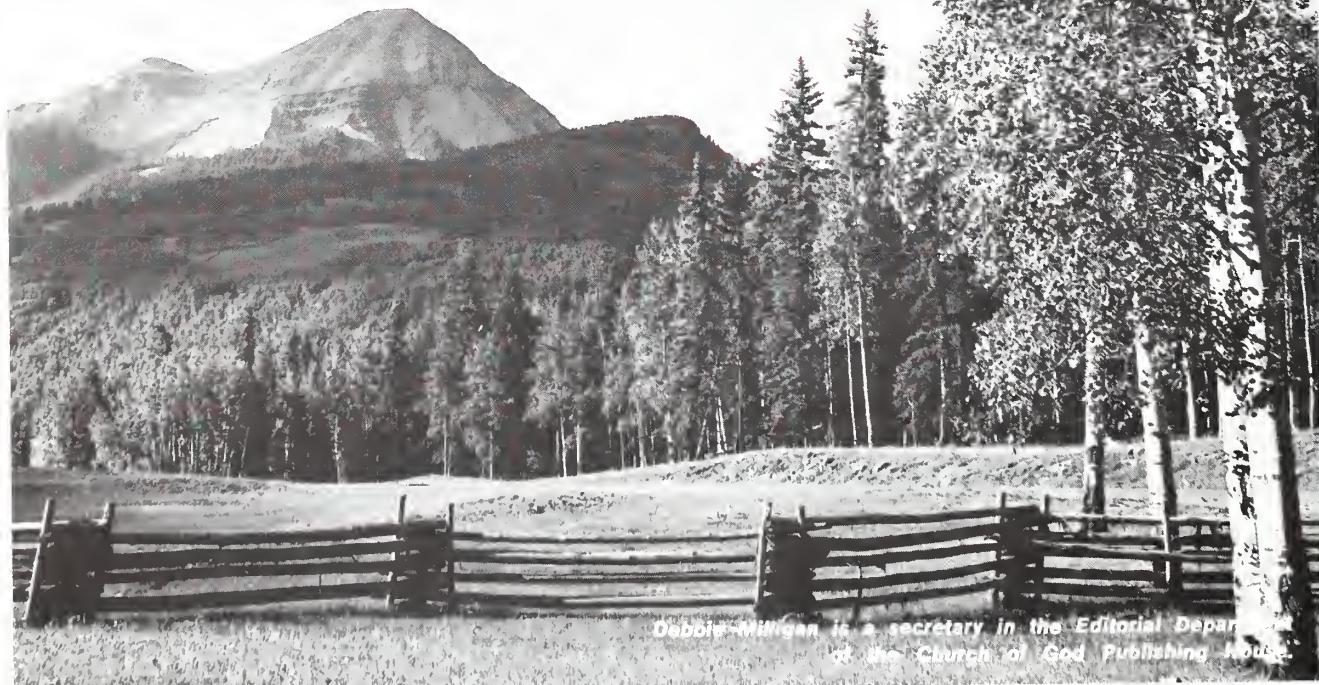
I saw "it" while wading through a pond—
on the rough stones,
in the smooth sand,
in the fragrant honeysuckle bush.

I saw "it" while riding along the countryside—
on the mountaintop,
in the valley.

I heard "it"—
in the whimper of a small babe,
in the frightened squeal of a squirrel,
in the distressed voice of a childless mother,
in the prayer of a loving old saint.

I felt "it"—
in the tug of a small child's hand,
in the rubbing of a furry kitten against my legs,
in the touch of a strong hand upon my shoulder.

"It" was LOVE from my Master!



Debbie Milligan is a secretary in the Editorial Department of the Church of God Publishing

My Mother

by Winnie L. Carey

Over the years, while serving as the wife of a youth leader, I have observed closely the influence mothers have on their daughters. The attitude teenage girls exhibit and the way they conduct themselves at youth camps, special activities, Teen Talent competition, and social functions reflects the attitude and standard conduct of their mothers. To a large degree, the value system and life-style of daughters are shaped by their mothers.

I am thankful for the privilege to work closely with the youth of the Church of God. Since my husband, Floyd D. Carey, holds the position of General Director of Youth and Christian Education, I am constantly involved in youth programs and activities. From my observation, we have teenage girls throughout the church who are facing the future with faith and optimism because of the influence of a loving, caring mother.

On May 14—Mother's Day this year, I want to give honor to my mother for her influence on my life. As you consider the reasons why I want to give honor to my mother, I hope that



Mrs. Carpenter (center) discusses a mother's influence with her daughter Winnie (right) and her granddaughter Vanessa.

you will jot down some virtues and qualities of your mother and will in some way express your appreciation to her for her influence upon you.

I honor my mother for her caring spirit. My mother has always cared deeply about me. As I grew up, and especially during the growing teen years, she showed her care about my needs and problems in many influencing ways: helping me with my homework, discussing problems, teaching me to accept responsibility, praying with me about spiritual and social difficulties, and creating a family-togetherness atmosphere. She showed a genuine interest in everything that affected my life, and this caring spirit has taught me the true meaning of love.

I honor my mother for her Christian faith. When I was three years old, I developed polio. My mother and my entire family prayed and claimed healing for me, and God performed a miracle. Throughout my life, she has set an example of faith—believing God's Word, accepting His promises, sharing His love—for me to follow. Her faith touched God seven years ago, and she was healed of lung

cancer. Her faith has influenced my life, and I know the meaning of trusting God.

I honor my mother for her zest for life. Life is now, and my mother accepts every day as a gift from God and a time to be happy, to enjoy fellowship, and to talk with friends. Even during difficult times, my mother has always been strong. She would make things happen for the benefit and safety of her family. When I was a teenager, her zest for life was a source of inspiration. It gave me a feeling of security. It inspired me to do my best at school and to dream beautiful dreams about the future. Her zeal for life helped me to understand the true meaning of family, friends, and faith.

I am thankful for my mother, and I give honor to her. Are you thankful for your mother? Show your mother that you love her on Mother's Day and throughout the year through acts of kindness, sharing sessions, and love expressions. ☩

Winnie's mother, Mrs. Paul P. Carpenter, resides in Buford, Georgia, with her companion of fifty years. Brother and Sister Carpenter are retired from the ministry.

ACTION

NEWS & VIEWS

by Lucille Walker

SUMMER WORK CAMP

Christian young people from all over the country will meet this summer in Montana to bring a message of love to some American Indians.

GROUP, a magazine for Christian youth groups, is sponsoring a work camp on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation from June 25 through July 1, 1978. Participants will be involved in renovation of homes, weatherization, construction, and repair.

Members and leaders of high school age Christian youth groups are eligible to participate in the camp. Participants will work in teams each day at various locations throughout the reservation.

Evenings at the camp will feature worship, music, and cultural exchange programs.

Last summer GROUP sponsored the Colorado Flood Disaster Recovery Camp in the Big Thompson Canyon. That camp drew more than 300 young people and leaders who worked to restore homes ravaged by a deadly flash flood in 1976. A slide-and-sound presentation of last year's camp is available for showing for \$10.

More information, brochures, and application forms are available from GROUP Magazine's American Indian Work Camp, Box 481, Loveland, Colorado 80537.

EAT FOR YWEA

The young people of the South Central District sponsored an "Eat for YWEA" lunch at the Iowa Christian Education Seminar. The young people secured all the food through donations, prepared it, and had it ready at noon for the youth and Christian education workers from throughout the state. The meal con-



sisted of a variety of sandwiches, soups, and sweets. Almost all the delegates who attended the seminar ate for YWEA. The youth of the South Central District, led by Anthony Horn (district director) and Eugene Maddox (district pastor), are gripped by the challenge of the New York City project. They are working

as a team to support the project and to raise funds. Their involvement gives them an inward sense of purpose and an outward sense of spiritual productivity.

SUMMER MISSIONS SCHOOL

The Church of God International Bible School in Rudersberg, Germany, will host a youth training program in world evangelism this summer. From June 19 to July 26, students ages 18 to 35 may get involved in world evangelism.

The five-week program will provide students with a variety of experiences, including classroom instruction, weekend field trips, and two weeks of direct mission exposure in such countries as Italy, France, Yugoslavia, England, or Spain.

For further details write Heinrich Scherz, Postfach 168, D-7062, Rudersberg, West Germany.

CB GROUP

Led by their pastor, Rick Zeller and the young people of the Red Oak, Iowa, Church of God formed a CB group. They took a picture of the young people who comprised the group and ran it in the local paper, inviting readers to attend the next CB meeting. Several new persons responded and attended at the next meeting. They expressed appreciation for the goals of the group and took part in the activities. Pastor Zeller states that the CB group has created interest, excitement, commitment, vision, and service among his young people. It has formed a new dimension of viewing Christian principles and procedures for sharing the gospel. By the way, CB stands for *Concerned Believers*; and the group's activities consist of sharing projects, personal soul-winning, and interaction activities.

THANKS, MOM

by Deborah Patterson

Dear Mom Sharp,

Do you remember the first service I attended at Woodbridge? It was Wednesday, September 1, 1971. Having just moved to Woodbridge, Virginia, we were looking for a church home. As my sister and I came up the walk, you greeted us with a hug and introduced yourself as *our* teacher. All nervousness vanished. From that moment on, we were part of "your teens."

As I sit here writing, my mind goes back to the numerous Wednesday nights that we prayed during the entire class period. Many times we were still praying after church was dismissed. Teens were saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost in our classroom. You cared about the spiritual condition of "your teens" more than did some parents. Daily you prayed for each of us and asked the Lord to keep us safe from Satan's snares.

Mom, not only were you concerned with our spiritual welfare and our church attendance, but you also knew that we needed recreation and social activities. So you opened your home for parties and class meetings. You were there, supporting us in prayer, in fellowship, and in counseling when needed. And whenever we met, whether for recreation or in class, we always sang our theme song:

*I have forsaken all to follow Jesus,
Trusting in Him to supply my
every need.*

*Laying aside the weight that
would beset me,*

*Striving to please my Lord in
word and deed.
Resting upon His promise never
to leave me,
But go with me all the way,
I have forsaken all to follow Jesus
Till I shall see Him face to face
some day.*

So, Mom, do you think we were surprised when you were selected "Mother of the Year" of the Woodbridge Church of God three years in a row? We were proud of you; you were "our mom," and we were "your teens."

But no longer are we teens.

We have grown older and have gone our separate ways. Some of us are not in church, some have married and started families, and others have moved away. But every one of us can truthfully say we were loved and taught the Word of God as teenagers. Thank God for "moms" who love teens enough to tell them the Truth!

Love,
Debbie

Deborah Patterson is research
secretary for the LIGHTED
PATHWAY.

THANKS, DISTRICT DIRECTORS!

Recently the *Lighted Pathway* and the General Youth and Christian Education Department conducted a church-wide circulation drive. Each District Youth and Christian Education Director was asked to endeavor to secure two additional roll subscriptions. Following are the results of the drive.

ALABAMA	State Director: RAYMOND F. CULPEPPER
Benny Johnson	Fort Payne District 2 Rolls
Tommy J. McCoy	Alabama City District 2 Rolls
Wren Waites	Talladega District 3 Rolls
Warren Wilson	Kimberly District 3 Rolls
NORTH GEORGIA	State Director: ROBERT P. HERRIN
A. Kenneth Garmon	Bremen District 3 Rolls
Hulet Smith	Griffin District 3 Rolls
SOUTH GEORGIA	State Director: BILL E. PARSDN
Robert Duke	Waycross District 2 Rolls
ILLINOIS	State Director: JUNUS C. FULBRIGHT
Tony P. Lane	South Aurora District 2 Rolls
KANSAS	State Director: DDNNIE SMITH
Bobby G. Pruitt	Coffeyville District 5 Rolls
LOUISIANA	State Director: GARY O. TYGART
Margaret Hammack	South Central District 2 Rolls
MARYLAND-DELAWARE-OC	State Director: RDBERT FRAZIER
Leigh F. Schuck	Metropolitan District 3 Rolls
MICHIGAN	State Director: T. DAVID SUSTAR
William Bingham	Riverview District 3 Rolls
Larry A. Hale	Willow Run District 4 Rolls
David Kelley	Lansing District 3 Rolls
Larry Morse	Port Huron District 2 Rolls
Garry Patrick	Traverse City District 3 Rolls
Russell Redmon	Monroe District 2 Rolls
Franklin Rose	Holland District 2 Rolls
Richard Silverst	Upper Peninsula District 2 Rolls
MISSOURI	State Director: ROLAND PENDLEY
Gary Barnhart	St. Joseph District 2 Rolls
Larry Billingsley	Sedalia District 2 Rolls
Cecil Bucy	St. Louis District 2 Rolls
Kenneth Carnell	Sikeston District 2 Rolls
Ralph Douglas	Springfield District 2 Rolls
John Howell	Carthage District 2 Rolls
Dean Phillips	Dudley District 2 Rolls
Bill Ralston	Kansas City District 2 Rolls
Paul Smith	Cantwell District 2 Rolls
James Wade	Potosi District 2 Rolls
NDRTH CAROLINA	State Director: PAUL COLLINS
Charlie Asby	Washington District Rolls
Sam Craft	Asheville District Rolls
Bruce Kuhlman	Fayetteville District Rolls
PENNSYLVANIA	State Director: EARL CUSHMAN
Eleanor Verrico	Newville District 2 Rolls
SOUTH CAROLINA	State Director: W. A. DAVIS
Ray Layton	Cheraw District 5 Rolls
TENNESSEE	State Director: LAWRENCE LEONHARDT
Dennis Akers	Jackson District 2 Rolls
TEXAS	State Director: TRAVIS PORTER
Terry Maston	Mineral Wells District 2 Rolls
WEST VIRGINIA	State Director: OAVIO L. MEADDWS
Mitchell Bias	Delbarton District 3 Rolls
T. L. Snuffer	Rainelle District 4 Rolls
WISCONSIN	State Director: ROBERT O. ROGERS
Don McLaren	Milwaukee District 2 Rolls

Touching

campus evangelism

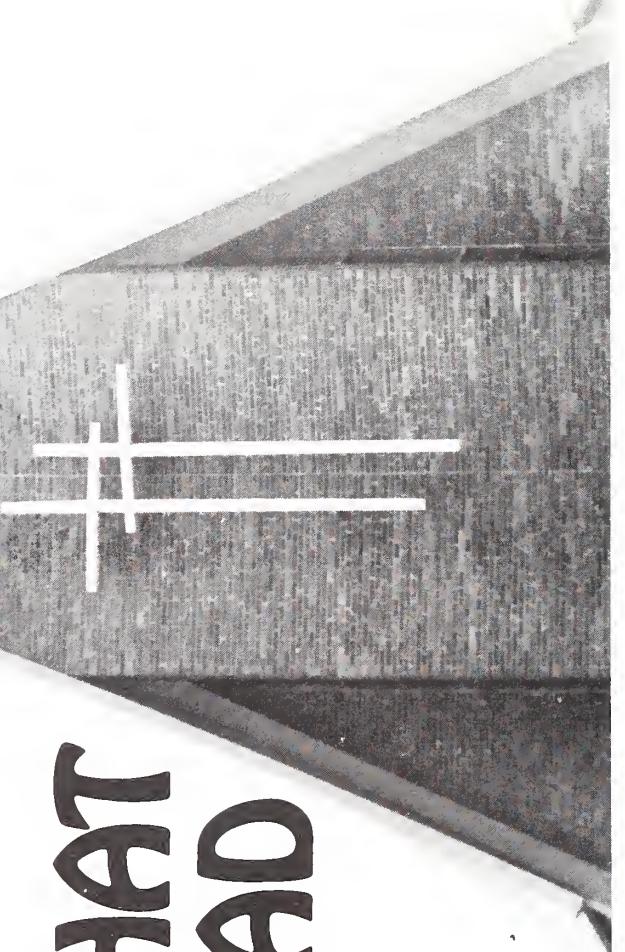
GET OFF THAT DEAD-END ROAD

by Larry G. Hess

We are all looking for our *place* in life. But so often on our search for God's will, it seems as if we are chasing a mirage across the desert. Since the earliest of ancient philosophers, man has been searching for the meaning of his existence. *Where did I come from? Why am I here?* People today are still in search of life's purpose. They will try anything: drugs, fads, knowledge, social action, pleasure. But so many times this search turns into a dead-end road.

Solomon, though he was wise and rich, was not satisfied but found himself asking the same question as many others: "What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?" (Ecclesiastes 1:3). Thus, Solomon determined in his heart to find the answer. His search revealed to him *emptiness* in wisdom, pleasure, power, self-righteousness, and possessions. Solomon sums up what he learned in Ecclesiastes 12:13—"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." So we see that man's purpose is to serve God. We need to remember that "whosoever ye do, do all

5. Continue to learn and reevaluate our plans and goals to keep them in God's will.
6. Give proper priority to God's work.
7. Remember that even the small jobs deserve our best effort.
Take every responsibility seriously.
8. Expect the best of ourselves.
9. Learn spiritual humility. "To be great is to serve."
10. Be willing to do jobs that do not always put us in the spotlight.
11. Keep our hearts pure and clean in the sight of God.



LONG

- PULL
1. Stop being a spectator and criticizing those who are trying.
 2. Ask God to help us see ourselves as He sees us.
 3. Get a vision of what we can become with God's help.
 4. Prepare ourselves to better serve God. We should not try to take a shortcut around the necessary time of preparation and planning.

HOW CAN I HELP MY WORLD? by Mike Chapman

No one will disagree with the statement that the world needs changing. There exists much sin, injustice, wrong thinking, and vileness. Yes, everyone realizes that we need a change. It seems there is always the problem of finding a place to start or learning if it would matter if we did change.

Change has always been implicit in the message of the gospel. Jesus taught that every individual needs to be converted, to be born again, and to repent—which means that each person needs to change his mind, to turn around, to confess his wrongs, and to rearrange his life around God's will.

A good place to start to change the world is to take a close “inner” look at our own lives. Jesus made it clear that no one should set out to solve another’s problems until he had first solved his own (Matthew 7:4, 5). The message of change comes home to each of us as individuals. We must be willing, one by one, to bring our lives face-to-face with God, into adjustment with His will, and to burn out of our souls the sins, the prejudices, the wrong attitudes, and the ill will that may be there. If we are to help change the world, we ourselves must first be changed by God.

Once we have experienced change, there must be a commitment to Christian living. Being a real Christian is more than just being born again. Christ must be made the Lord of our lives. We must be His servants. If we are to change the world, the world must see a difference in our lives—a difference in behavior, in attitudes, and in speech. We must “live out” the Christian message of changed lives (2 Corinthians 6:17).

Finally, there must be a commitment to Christian service. The

When we get off that dead-end road and onto a road of service, we will find meaning and purpose in living. Our life will be a great adventure of growth and development.

Are you ready? Are you willing? Then begin *right now* to serve God and to make your life worthwhile. 

fullness of Christian living is service to Christ. We cannot just be good; we must be good for something or we will be “good for nothing.” Find a place of service where your life and your witness can count and can have an influence on others. We must proclaim to our world that Jesus is the answer to sin, injustice, hate, violence, strife, war, and bitterness. We must be committed to serve, if the world will be changed.

You *can* help change your world. If you have been changed and will be committed to the Christian life and to Christian service, you will be doing your part. Remember, change comes slowly. It takes a long time to get a new idea into our head, and even longer to get an old idea out.

Will the task of changing the world ever be done? One day Jesus shall say, “Behold, I make all things new” (Revelation 21:5). All of us who have done our part to bring about a change in our world will have a part in the final great change! 



Campus Evangelism

Church of God Department of Youth and Christian Education

Staff:

Floyd D. Carey
J. Ralph Brewer
Lucille Walker

Compiled by R. Lamar Vest

Pathway Pointers

Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education

WHAT WAS ONE OF YOUR GREATEST SPIRITUAL CRISSES AS A YOUNG PERSON, AND HOW DID YOU COPE WITH IT?

When I was seventeen years old, I joined the Navy. And while a physical war was going on in the world, a spiritual war was taking place in my life. When I would try to put serving God "all together," the devil would always be present to cause doubt, to deceive, and to destroy. I was serving on a ship ten thousand miles away from home; and to my knowledge, there was not one single Christian on board. There was no one to help me, and my life was a miserable mess.

My mother was a godly woman and lived the Christian life before me. I was disciplined in honesty, purity, trust, and respect by my grandfather. He devoted a lot of time to guiding me in forming values and standards. I knew the difference between right and wrong, good and evil; but I kept putting off making the right decision—it seemed that the devil was winning the war.

But my godly training was always with me. It always sounded an alarm and caused me to think about God and the future. It led me in making a life-

changing commitment. One day I made up my mind to live right. I said, "I am tired of this life. I am going to change my way of doing things." I accepted Christ; He changed my life. I believe that godly training will always guide a young person through the storms and battles of life.

HOW CAN YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY MAINTAIN HIGH MORAL STANDARDS IN AN IMMORAL SOCIETY?

There's only one way! Young people must live a saved, sanctified life and lean on the Spirit. Youth must be devoted to Christ like a Seeing Eye dog is devoted to his master.

The high school that my son attended was ranked number four in the nation in drug traffic and crime. He was tempted and exposed to sin and immorality. But he chose to follow God. He fasted and prayed and God

Featured this month in *Pathway Pointers* is J. Frank Culpepper, second assistant general overseer. The characteristic that has dominated the life and ministry of Brother Culpepper is concern and love for others. It is apparent when you are with him that he really feels the hurts, the needs, and the dreams of fellow Christians and ministers of the gospel. As a state overseer, he inaugurated a Big Brother program to assist small states in starting new churches and in securing personnel. Everywhere he has served—pastor, state overseer, council member, chairman of committees and boards—he has taken an active lead in devising plans to help people live for Christ and to spread the good news of His love.

gave him victory . . . joy . . . fulfillment. God loves young people and will give special grace to resist temptation and to maintain high and holy standards.

IN WHAT WAYS DID YOU HELP YOUR CHILDREN SOLVE "GROWING-UP" PROBLEMS?

Hardly a day went by when my children were growing up that I did not tell them that I loved them. I tried to understand their problems, their needs, and their goals. I kept my children "on my heart." I always tried to be genuine. I cried with them, prayed with them, and played with them.

I also accepted the responsibility to counsel my children. I counseled with them about honesty, sex, Christian living, and fairness. I always left the door open for them to talk with me openly and freely about any subject that was on their mind. In the home I tried to maintain a spirit of optimism, faith, and vision. I learned how to say "I'm sorry" to my children when I was in error.

For every thing I told my children they could not do, I provided something they could do. Also, I gave them a reason, when I had to say no. They were also given an opportunity to share, to speak out, and to express their views.

Young people of the Church of God, God bless you; I am praying for you.



J. FRANK CULPEPPER



Kansas City, Missouri
August 1-7

Youth and Christian Education



ACTIVITIES

Theme—"ONWARD TOGETHER"

MONDAY

Pastors Seminar—"Youth Crisis Intervention"
District Directors Banquet
Music Festival

TUESDAY

Teen Talent Competition—Art, Bible, Music
Action Rallies—Peacemakers, Children

WEDNESDAY

Teen Talent
International Youth Celebration
Action Rallies (2)—Children
Young Adult Fellowship

THURSDAY

Teen Talent Action Rallies (2)—Children
State Directors Fellowship

FRIDAY

Teen Talent Action Rallies (2)—Children
Youth Ice Cream Festival
State Youth Board
Members Luncheon

SATURDAY

Action Rallies (2)—Children
Teachers Luncheon
Teen Talent Awards Festival

SUNDAY

Superintendents Breakfast
World Missions Emphasis
Youth Night Service

MONDAY

State Directors Training Session

MUSIC

Steve Brock, Kenneth Hall
Teen Talent Participants
Waymon and Wilma Miller
Joe Paul Pass
Special Musical Features

SPEAKERS



Leonard C. Albert



James F. Byrd



Paul Conn



Robert D. Crick



Robert E. Fisher



Marcus V. Hand



Al Taylor



Paul L. Walker

COORDINATORS

Mike L. Baker, Teen Talent Music
Neil Burt, Art
Anthony Lombard, Bible Quiz
Carolyn Dirksen, Writing
Lynn Stone, Children's Church



Keynotes

Mary Morris, an accomplished musician, is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of a Church of God pastor.

by Mary S. Morris

WHAT TO EXPECT IN COLLEGE MUSIC CLASSES (Part II)

In last month's issue of KEYNOTES, an introduction to performance-oriented college music classes was given. Schopenhauer's quotation, which was given in Part I is particularly appropriate for this column: "Man takes the limits of his own field of vision for the limits of the world."

Many people have viewed the study of music as only being performance-oriented. Performance *does* make up a great deal of the study of music; but music study in college also requires a more objective approach than just performance. The class-oriented approach fulfills that requirement.

A music student will first encounter a course in music theory. If he has not had previous theory study, the course will probably be of an introductory nature. He will study the rudiments of music, upon which our musical literacy is based.

In this type course, a student will learn the elements of tone, the symbols used in notating mu-

sic pitch and rhythm, the formation of scales and intervals, and will learn to recognize rhythms and melodies by ear (given in dictation) and to write them down. The study of music theory will also include memorization of musical terms and symbols used in the expression of dynamics and tempos in music. This type course requires a great deal of homework and study (practice) of the concepts learned in class. The more advanced courses in theory—such as harmony, counterpoint, conducting, orchestration and composition—are based upon the groundwork you have laid in mastering this course.

Another course that a music student will encounter in college is that of an introduction to music or a music appreciation course. In this type course, a student does not delve into the technical aspects of music such as theory requires, but it introduces the world of music to the student objectively through the study of music literature and history. This type course does not always require a reading knowledge

of music notation for the student to master the course. Music is viewed from the aspect of historical perspective (periods), the study of genres (types of music), and forms (the shape and format) of music. A great deal of listening to recordings is usually required in this type course, and the student is taught how to listen to music and what to listen for.

For the most part, the two types of music classes just described are what a student will encounter in college music study. Advanced classes are based upon a more detailed section of these classes. For example, a more advanced theory class (such as harmony) will isolate the study of intervals and the formation of triads learned in rudiments and will study only that aspect of music. Counterpoint, on the other hand, will take the concepts learned in melody writing and intervals and will base the entire study on them. Conversely, a course in nineteenth-century music or Beethoven will isolate a section of study introduced in the course in music appreciation (or introduction to music) for more detailed study. Some of these courses may be one semester in length, or two semesters, depending on the college's music department requirements.

The study of music, though fascinating and rewarding, is not an easy road upon which to travel. A student has to be as diligent in his class study as he is in performance practice. Because of the discipline required in music study, only a percentage make it to the coveted degree. Everyone who has studied music at all, however, will agree that it was a very worthwhile pursuit in their quest for knowledge. ☺

NEXT ISSUE: "Church of God Collegiate Music Programs"

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Plan for Summer Fun

summertime is an excellent time for youth to share their faith and to minister to their world. And that is just what one group of young people did.

As summer approached, the young people of the Cathedral of the Valley in Glendale, Arizona, began to look for a way to spend their time ministering for the Lord. Under the leadership of Sheldon Vik, youth pastor, they began preparing a program to take into neighboring churches. The name of the group, the Light Factory, gave them the inspiration for a theme. The Light Factory "produces twenty-four hours of Son light" by showing forth the "fruit of the Spirit."

The group began to look for ways to help explain just how Christians have the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. Excitement built as they were kept busy writing and rewriting a script, searching for songs to sing, building sets, and practicing.

The final program centered around a puppet named Professor Edison, a new Christian working in a lab to make his light shine. The young people brought him the nine fruits of the Spirit through skits, a TV quiz show, a commercial, songs, and a telegram sent by the Holy Spirit.

Finally, August arrived and the Light Factory headed for Southern California led by Pastor Vik and Pastor Mary Graves. During the day, the group ministered to each other in fun and fellowship; then at night they minis-



D

tered to the church with the message of the program.

Tim Hutchison, president of the Light Factory, said, "We had in mind that the youth had a ministering outreach to each other, to our community, and to the world. We all learned many things from our experiences. We prayed for each other and for our services. Looking back, our program was telling the people about the fruit of the Spirit, while God was teaching us the reality of these nine fruits on our tour."

While researching their material, writing their script, and working together, the young people began to grow in the Lord. By ministering to others, they found their spirits being ministered to and became a vital part of the church of today.

E



F

The photographs (counter clockwise) are as follows:

(A) Professor Edison and Lainee Ackridge discuss temperance. (B) Peace comes when we give all our cares to Jesus. Lainee and Elizabeth Graves sing about it. (C) (Left to right) Jim Hutchison, Randy Patterson, Mark Osborne, Jeff Marcum, Tom Hutchison. (D) (Left to right) Tim Hutchison and Judi Graves. (E) Members of the Light Factory take an imaginary bus ride. (Left to right) Mark Osborne, Tim Hutchison, Lainee Ackridge, Jeff Marcum, Tom Hutchison, Connie Privette, Jim Hutchison. (F) Game show contestants are puzzled by question. (Left to right) Connie Privette, Tim Hutchison, Judi Graves, Glen Harris



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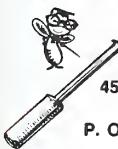
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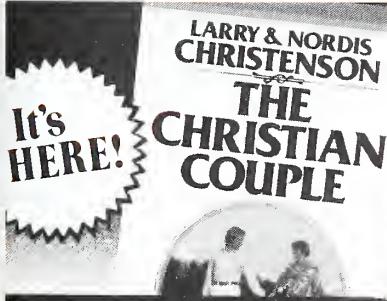
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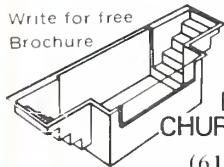
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NATIONAL SUCCESS



Praise God for Church of God young people. They are not all alike—but what group is? Many of them have excelled in the fine arts while others work hard in Christian service projects. But each one of them is special. They individually portray their aspirations and ideals.

Stephanie Ann Futral, a member of the College Park Church of God in Huntsville, Alabama, recently achieved recognition by gaining the third runner-up spot in the nationwide Miss United States Photographic Competition held in Palm Springs, California. Several of her pictures were submitted for the national photogenic contest after her photographs won the state competition in Alabama.

As third runner-up in the contest, Stephanie won an eight-day, seven-night, all-expense-paid trip to Mazatlan, Mexico, where she served as an official pageant judge in the selection of the winning photographs of the new Miss Photographic of California 1977-78.

She is also involved in the activities at her local church and serves as an officer of the College Park Youth Choir.

Her other talents and hobbies include playing the piano, junior life saving, photography, first aid, and swimming instruction.

—Church Reporter

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YOUNG PEOPLE at Work in Central America

Church of God young people are at work in Central America.

They are assisting in sharing the message of the love of Jesus; they are helping to develop leaders to serve as pastors, teachers, and youth workers; and they are encouraging persons of all ages to enjoy refreshing fellowship and to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth. And God is blessing their vision. A revival of interest and involvement is taking place—God is manifesting His power in wonderful and unusual ways.

The target cities for the 1975 YWEA Tri-City Project were Mexico City (Mexico), San Salvador (El Salvador), and Managua (Nicaragua). Recently the church buildings in San Salvador and Managua were dedicated. The property has been secured in Mexico City, and the church is presently under construction. The process of obtaining building permits and securing materials in Latin

America is a long and complicated process. This is the reason for the delay in completing the churches.

All young people can take pride in their involvement in the Tri-City Project. These new churches in Third World cities will provide centers for ministry and outreach services—worship, training, evangelism, fellowship, and love. They will also serve as models to motivate faith and vision among the clergy and laity of Central America.

Through YWEA, youth are at work today in Central America.

SAN SALVADOR— A Training Center

The new church is located four blocks from the heart of old San Salvador and just two blocks from new San Salvador. Modern government buildings and beautiful shopping plazas distinguish the new city from the old. The YWEA church is located in one of the most ideal areas of the city. A bus stops in front of the church every two minutes, and

you can get to the church from any place in the city with only one transfer.

William D. Alton, superintendent of Central America, stated that the young people of San Salvador are extremely thankful for what the young people in the States have done. They are thankful for a place to worship and study; and a building that is attractive and fully equipped where they can take their friends. It has given them an incentive

(Below) A large crowd of youths and adults attend the Managua Church. (Bottom) A large congregation of the Church of God in San Salvador.



to get more involved in church activities and in performing Kingdom service.

The church in San Salvador is already self-supporting. In the future it will support 60 to 70 percent of the national evangelists in the country. The church will seat 500, and the average attendance exceeds 250. Included in the membership are many professional people—teachers, lawyers, and businessmen.

The new building, plus positive leadership, has enabled the church to break into a segment of society that has not been touched before in the city.

The new building is valued at one million colones, or \$250,000. The YWEA money was invested wisely in San Salvador. The church serves as a place of worship and also as a training center for the entire country of El Salvador—theological school for pastors and potential church leaders, theological extension for laymen in the capital city, Sunday school and youth workshops and conferences. The harvest is ripe in San Salvador, the people are receptive and eager to hear the gospel message, and the youth of the Church of God through YWEA have provided a means to help reap the harvest.

MANAGUA—A Challenge

According to Supervisor Felipe Montanez, the new church building represents the Church of God in Nicaragua. The new building serves as a challenge—a great source of inspiration—to all the pastors to go about their work with spiritual pride, vision, and holy determination. The youth have also received a new vision; and more than ever before, they want to be identified with the Church of God and to get involved in the activities of the church.

In 1972 an earthquake de-

e beautiful Church of God in Managua.

stroyed the downtown area of Managua. The new church has been named the Central Church, and it is located in the heart of the new city. The church is surrounded by hundreds of new homes. A large hospital is in the immediate area. Seven different bus routes stop in front of the church. It is in one of the most desirable locations and is



(Above) Don Pemberton (right) preaches while Bill Alton interprets at the dedication in San Salvador. (Below) Part of the congregation attending the San Salvador Church.

one of the best church buildings in Managua.

The new reinforced concrete brick church is situated on a two-acre tract, one entire city block. The building seats 450 and houses an office for the supervisor of Nicaragua and a library with training materials for pastors and youth. A recreational field for games and social activities is located behind the church. This phase of the program has created great interest and excitement among the young people.

Supervisor Felipe Montanez expressed that the new church building was really what they needed. The preachers have been brought closer together through the building program. A great

spirit of unity now exists. The building has given the Church of God respect and prestige. Laymen are displaying a desire to work and to witness, and God is blessing bountifully.

On behalf of young people, pastors, and laymen of San Salvador and Managua, William D. Alton, superintendent of Central America, expresses deep appreciation to the young people of the United States. He is grateful for their spirit of love and their willingness to share as manifested in their support of the YWEA Tri-City Project. General Youth and Christian Education Director Floyd D. Carey, on behalf of young people around the world, would like to convey admiration and appreciation to Brother Alton for his superb supervision of the construction of the two new churches and his committed service as a missions leader. He has served admirably in the Church of God missions program for twenty-seven years, and he has made a phenomenal contribution to the work of the Church of God around the world.

Through YWEA Church of God young people are at work in Central America. ☩

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CALL OF THE MASTER

IF ONLY . . .

Martha stood alone. Surging emotion had given way to complete numbness as she stared at the harsh, gray rock of the tomb. The bleak Judean atmosphere hung on her shoulders like a shroud as her mind repeated the words her lips could not utter; *My brother is gone . . . Lazarus is dead.*

Suddenly, her silent suffering was interrupted by a glad call from someone down the road.

"Martha, Jesus is here; He has come!"

A few days ago, no other words could have brought such relief and joy to Martha's heart. Now, in the face of that tomb, those words stung with cruel sarcasm. She turned her numb stare toward His face and said, "If only You had been here sooner, my brother would be alive!"

ILLUSTRATION BY DORI

What pitiful words those were—if only. . . .

We have all been in Martha's situation and have used those words, "if only." They have not always been spoken in the face of death. There are a thousand different occasions on which we have employed those six letters. We have said, "If only I had studied for this test," or "If only I didn't have acne," or "If only my parents weren't so strict."

"If onlys" are often nothing but flimsy excuses, attempted explanations for the things which don't seem to go as we think they should. We are saying, "I would be happy, successful, attractive, if only. . . ." This way, the blame for our failure is not on ourselves, but on our "if only."

I once sat in a maximum security prison and listened to a minister's son tell me, "If only my girlfriend hadn't talked me into killing my wife, I wouldn't be here!" An "if only" didn't do much good in that situation!

However, of all the "if onlys," the worst and most dangerous is the one that stands between you and Jesus Christ. This one could have eternal consequences! "If only my friends wouldn't reject me," or "If only I didn't have to give up so much!"—those may sound familiar to you. Or you may have an "if only" all your

own. In any case, there is good news for you!

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross and was resurrected so that your "if onlys" are no longer needed. John said that Jesus did not come to condemn you for your failures, but to offer you eternal life (John 3:16). Jesus himself said that your life could be more abundant and more satisfying than you have ever dreamed (John 10:10).

Are you tired of your life? Has life become a long string of excuses? Then what you need is a fresh start, a second chance. It is happening every day as people just like you lay aside their shabby, worn-out "if onlys"; as they turn their hopeless lives over to Jesus Christ and take up a new banner that says, "The past is gone, all things are new; I can do all things through Christ who is giving me strength every day!" (See 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Philippians 4:13.)

Martha's story does not end with her pitiful "if only." The overwhelming presence of Jesus brought change. As the truth of who He was and what He could do began to dawn on her, Martha said, "But even now I know God will give me what I ask of Him!"

Martha had taken a step of faith; she replaced her hopeless "if only" with an expectant "but even now." It is true that she still had honest doubt as to her brother's resurrection, but she had taken that first step. And that was enough.

All Jesus wants is a chance; He wants you to take that first step. Why not turn your life over to Him now. Throw away those "if onlys" and experience the hope, joy, satisfaction, and adventure of new life in Christ!



Larry D. Pemberton pastors the Pinellas Park, Florida, Church of God.

ANGELS PROTECT US

"He has given His angels charge over us."

We hear a great deal these days about the devastating effect of demons, but not enough about the help of angels. Those heavenly beings are an extension of God's love, care, and protection; and they are very important to us.

God promises to "give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways" (Psalm 91:11). Besides, He assures us that "the angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them" (Psalm 34:7).

Jesus spoke of our angels in heaven. He said, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 18:10).

An angel appeared to the Apostle Paul who was facing shipwreck and told him to have no fear. Also, the servant of Elisha was encouraged when he saw a heavenly host ready to bring victory in battle.

John Paton was a missionary to the cannibalistic people of the New Hebrides Islands. One night the natives surrounded his hut, bent on attacking. The missionary and his wife prayed throughout the night for God's protection. The natives did not attack; and as day was breaking, they turned and walked away.

Later the native chief was converted, and Paton discussed the dreadful night with him. The chief asked, "Who were all those men you had with you?" and he was told that no one was there but the missionary and his wife.

The chief insisted that he and his men did not attack because hundreds of men stood guard, dressed in shining garments and holding drawn swords. Undoubtedly, angels protected Paton and his wife from certain massacre.

Think of it! Angels, unbelievably mighty, giving us divine protection. Their strength and power are incalculable. For example, the death angel acted alone when he destroyed the firstborn of Egypt. Though angels are not all-powerful, Paul spoke of the "mighty angels" of God (2 Thessalonians 1:7).

Satan is a fallen angel, and he has great power. However, when Christ comes back to reign, one angel will bind Satan with a chain and cast him into the abyss.

Though Satan has power, Christ is more powerful, for "greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). He has given His angels charge over us. Therefore, we are kept secure as long as we follow the Lord. 



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CONTENTS

- 2** The Church Wants You
By Clyne W. Buxton, Editor
- 4** Teen Talent Music
By Lamar Vest
- 5** Teen Talent Creative Art
By Lamar Vest
- 6** Teen Talent Bible Division
By J. Ralph Brewer
- 7** Teen Talent Creative Writing
By Lucille Walker
- 8** Onward Together
By Floyd D. Carey
- 10** The Impact of General Assembly Youth Activities
By Carolyn Dirksen
- 12** Right or Wrong?
By Teddy Moody Heard
- 14** The Answers Are in the Bible
By Russell J. Fornwalt
- 16** Pathway Pointers
- 18** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 20** Keynotes
By Mary S. Morris
- 22** Take My Van, Precious Lord
By Robert R. Seyda
- 24** The Church of God's First Youth Bible Institutes
By Jerry L. Millwood
- 24** Family Training Hour "Stars"
By Nancy Neal
- 25** Chuck's Chartered Flight Service
By Homer G. Rhea, Jr
- 26** Call of the Master
By Hoyt E. Stone
- 27** Desk of the Editor

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This summer thousands of teenagers will converge upon Kansas City to participate in Teen Talent. Coming from practically every state and several foreign countries, the youths either will take part in Teen Talent or will observe those who do.

The Teen Talent competition is a significant part of our biennial General Assembly. Not only are teenagers involved, but parents, chaperons, pastors, and friends have a vital interest in it. Therefore, from Tuesday through Saturday the different divisions of Teen Talent will hold the interest of

THE



Lighted Pathway, June, 1978

thousands of people in various meeting places throughout the convention complex.

I hope you are planning to go to the Assembly. It is an ideal time for youth involvement and fellowship. Not only will there be Teen Talent participation, but numerous other activities will be going on. For example, the more than two thousand ordained ministers will discuss important subjects for hours, and the laymen and the ladies will have their meetings.

Besides, the worship services are fantastic. When approximately

twelve thousand people gather to sing, to praise, and to hear the Word preached, it is a blessed experience. Also, one general worship service is given exclusively to youth. Called "Youth Night," the singing, the music, and the other facets of the service feature young people. Then, the message emphasizes the place of youth in the Kingdom.

The Church of God has always stressed the importance of young people. At the first General Assembly in 1906, the church passed a motion emphasizing Sunday school. Of course, this included

youths. In 1929 the Assembly adopted the Young People's Endeavor (YPE), and in 1937 it selected the *Lighted Pathway* as the youth journal.

About the only special youth emphasis for years was Youth Night. This was always an important service and was eagerly anticipated by both the young people and the adults.

But then came Teen Talent! Now teenagers are kept busy throughout the week in meaningful activity.

Teen Talent is not only important to youths at the General As-

URCH WANTS YOU

Scene from Swope Park Zoo, Kansas City



sembly, but it is vital to our young people when they return to their home churches. No program of the Church of God has been more productive. Youths who participate in Teen Talent often become local church musicians, or they use their talent in other ways.

God has a great need for youths who are proficient in art, writing, music, and Bible teaching. The purpose of Teen Talent is to develop such talents.

The *Lighted Pathway* staff is glad to play an important role in the Teen Talent program. We regularly prepare articles about it. We also devote entire issues to the theme in order to keep you informed.

We are vitally interested in you. We are eager for you to be a happy, spiritually productive youth. We are your partner.

I look forward to seeing you at the General Assembly in August.

Clyne M. Buxton

Editor
Lighted Pathway

Teen Talent MUSIC

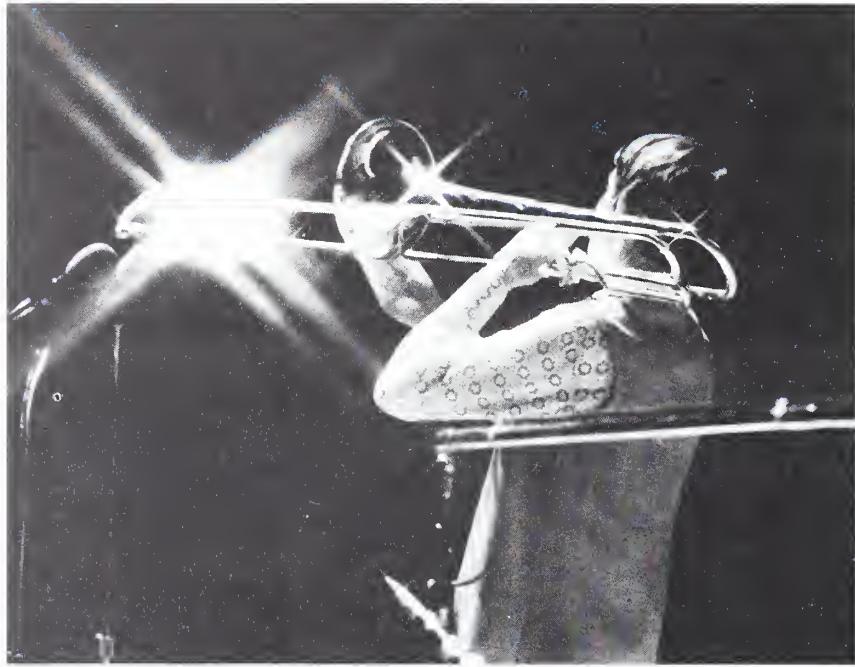
Music is art. It portrays original expressions of love, life, and beauty. It expresses in fresh terms the imaginations of heart and soul.

Music is a basic means of communication. It is people sharing with others their feelings of joy, their expressions of gratitude, and their sensitivity to life and its true meaning.

Music is praise. It is people lifting their voices in thanksgiving and adoration to the Divine Creator—the One who fashioned music in its infancy and presented it to man for his enjoyment.

Music is life. It is an expression of the innermost being of man. It puts man in touch with feelings and emotions which are not probed by any other medium.

Teen Talent is music. It is music at its very best. The General Department of Youth and Christian Education wishes to invite you to be a part of the Teen Talent National Finals in Kansas City, Tuesday, August 1 at 1 p.m. through Saturday, August 5, 1978.



GENERAL SCHEDULE

Music Hall—Auditorium

1. Tuesday, August 1 AFTERNOON 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Vocal Solo and Instrumental Solo (Keyboard)
2. Tuesday, August 1 AFTERNOON 4:00-6:30 p.m.
Vocal Solo and Instrumental Solo (Keyboard)
3. Wednesday, August 2 MIDDAY 11:00-1:00 p.m.
Vocal Solo and Instrumental Solo (Non-Keyboard)
4. Wednesday, August 2 AFTERNOON 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Vocal Solo and Instrumental Solo (Non-Keyboard)
5. Wednesday, August 2 EVENING 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Instrumental Solo (Non-Keyboard)
6. Thursday, August 3 MIDDAY 11:00-1:00 p.m.
Instrumental Ensemble and Vocal Ensemble
7. Thursday, August 3 AFTERNOON 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Instrumental Ensemble and Vocal Ensemble
8. Thursday, August 3 EVENING 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Instrumental Ensemble and Vocal Ensemble
9. Friday, August 4 AFTERNOON 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Choir
10. Friday, August 4 EVENING 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Choir
11. Saturday, August 5 AFTERNOON 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Choir



It is definitely not the Louvre in Paris or the New York Museum of Fine Arts. It is a small display area off from the main auditorium of the Kansas City Civic Center. But on display will be some of the finest art in the world. What makes this display so special? It is special because it comes from the creative hands of Church of God young people—young people who are devoting their talents to the glory of God.

Everybody knows something about art. It is a part of the fabric of human living. We see it on magazine covers, on advertising posters, and reflected in the buildings in which we live, study, and worship. Art is man-made. It is a creation. It reflects a leap of the imagination. Art is a tangible thing shaped by human hands.

The Creative Art Division of Teen Talent has opened up a whole new area for Church of God youth to explore. And explore it you have! All across the nation, you have gotten out your paints and your brushes; you have pulled out your cameras and have worked at your ceramics; you have drawn, sewn, and sculptured; and you have created original works of art. Your church wants to recognize you for your accomplishments.

It will all be happening in Kansas City, August 1-5,

Teen Talent CREATIVE ART

Alan Cliburn Photo



1978. Creative Church of God young people, all state winners in the Teen Talent Creative Art Division, will be displaying their art entries. National winners will be selected in each of the six categories:

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| ● Ceramics | ● Photography |
| ● Graphics | ● Sculpture |
| ● Painting | ● Textiles |

If you are privileged to be in Kansas City for the Fifty-seventh General Assembly, make it a point to visit the Teen Talent Creative Art display. You'll be glad you did.

Why not consider making plans right now to enter Creative Art competition the next time it is held in your state? Be creative. Use your talents for the glory of God.

TEEN TALENT CREATIVE ART

The Teen Talent Art Display will be located adjacent to the main auditorium of the Kansas City Civic Center. *General Schedule:* Tuesday through Wednesday—check in entries; Thursday morning—judging; Thursday evening through Saturday morning—art on display; Saturday afternoon—art display open for purchasing entries.

Assistant General Director
Youth and Christian Education

Teen Talent BIBLE DIVISION



Hundreds of teenagers throughout the Church of God are rediscovering the exciting joys of God's Word and are cultivating a deeper appreciation for its multiple values as they participate in the all-new Teen Talent Bible Division program. With emphasis upon Bible reading, Bible teaching, and Bible quizzing, this latest addition to the Teen Talent march of progress is attracting a large group of young people heretofore untouched by the Teen Talent program. The challenge of competition, the thrill of new adventures in the Word of God, mental and spiritual growth, meeting new friends, and sharing Christian fellowship are all distinctive features of the Teen Talent Bible Division.

The Bible Reading category is designed to emphasize the value of public Bible reading and seeks to guide teenagers in developing proficient reading skills. The Bible Teaching category underscores the important role of the teaching ministry in the church and provides a practical vehicle for cultivating and expressing those skills. "Never a dull moment" would adequately describe the Bible Quizzing category. It is designed for team participation and offers teenagers opportunities for personal involvement, spiritual development, and stimulating competition. Bible quizzing employs the use of an electronic quiz unit capable of determining to the millionths of a second which contestant first depresses the answer switch. This approach keeps competition lively and requires the contestant to not only have a thorough knowledge of the study materials, but to recall and respond quickly.

When you see a teenager stand up at the regional, state, or national Teen Talent finals and read a beautiful Scripture passage or present a dynamic Bible lesson or participate on a Bible Quiz team, you will know that he is a special young person—special, because he is involved in a history-making process. Yes, the launching of the 1978 Teen Talent Bible Division is a history-making process; and it is sure to open a brand-new dimension for youth involvement in the Church of God.

**Bible Reading and Teaching—Rooms 402
and 403, Auditorium**

Bible Quizzing—Room 400, Auditorium

1. AUGUST 2, WEDNESDAY

9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
2:00 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

2. AUGUST 3, THURSDAY

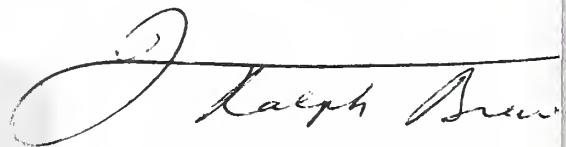
9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
2:00 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

3. AUGUST 4, FRIDAY

9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
2:00 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

4. AUGUST 5, SATURDAY

9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
2:00 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Ralph Brown".

Administrative Assistant
*Youth and Christian
Education*

Dear Teen, "What if you had the opportunity to speak to all the teens of the Church of God? What if you could leave a message to others that would influence their lives many years after you are gone?"

Teen Talent gives you this opportunity. It makes the "what ifs" a real possibility.

In a society and in schools where students are trained to imitate and to parrot back just what has been given to them, creativity is stifled.

The simplest level of education leads the student to ask *who?* *what?* *where?* *when?* The advanced or "graduate question" moves to *so what?* The creative level moves to *what if?*

When we lead to the *what if* realm, we lead students to think for themselves, to look inside their own heads and hearts—to discover hopes and dreams and gifts and talents.

That's what the Teen Talent program of the Church of God Youth Department hopes to do. It hopes to help you discover your gifts—your talents—and to provide a means for recognition and sharing with the whole church.

Look for the August edition of the *Lighted Pathway* when we plan to publish this year's winners in each of the creative writing competition categories: Short Stories, Poems, Plays, and Articles and Essays.

Read on this page the creative messages of two of our teens in the 1976 Teen Talent competition. Praise God for the ministry of creative writing.

Jessie Walker

Editorial Assistant
Youth and Christian Education

Teen Talent CREATIVE WRITING

I SAW A BUTTERFLY

I saw a butterfly breeze through the air,
Carefree, rejoicing in just being there;
Worries had left him, his peace so calmed me;
Smoothly, he fluttered his journey so free.

Just as I watched him I noticed a wind
Rush by my butterfly, strength it did lend.
The wind was not fierce, it encouraged his flight;
Onward with power, his path was made bright.

Gray turned the sky and soon raindrops did fall;
Tried was my friend, he endured through it all.
Faith kept him happy, not down or displeased;
Quit he did not; yes, he soared, yet with ease.

Friend, if you wonder what all of this means,
Just take a moment to listen and see.
Butterflies are Christians who live in the Light;
The Wind—Holy Ghost—does strengthen our flight;
Trials are raindrops; warm sunrays are God;
The rainbow's our promise as we onward trod.

—Linda Dyke



THE HOLY SPIRIT

He comes down,
gently enveloping your soul,
and a barrier is formed
between you and the facade of man.

There is a direct communication
between you and the real world,
the domain of God,
the perfect world
of all things real and solid;

There is the beauty of perfection
that one outside the barrier of reality cannot understand.

He wraps you in His love;
and suddenly,
the language of that world—one that no man alone can understand—

flows from your heart.
Happiness fills your soul;
the artificial passes away;
and the reality of God's love glows in your heart.

—Jeanette Lee





ONWARD TOGETHER...

*Church of God
57th General Assembly
Kansas City, Missouri*

ONWARD TOGETHER

The theme for the Fifty-seventh General Assembly is "Onward Together." The General Assembly brings our church together to consider our work and to prepare for aggressive Kingdom action. You, young person, are vital to the success of this "Onward Together" emphasis.

I hope that you will be able to attend the General Assembly this year. The youth activities —Rallies, Teen Talent Bible and Music Competition, Ice Cream Festival, Youth Night Service—will bring you together with other young people for enriching experiences.

Also, you will be able to be a part of the church in action planning for the future.

Our state directors love you and are committed to serving you through programs, activities, and personal counseling. I express appreciation to all of them and commend them for their love, their vision, and their work. They also perform valuable service at the General Assembly.

Young person, God's choice gifts and grace-miracles await you as you go "onward together." Join with me in prayer for a great General Assembly spiritual impact. I love you!



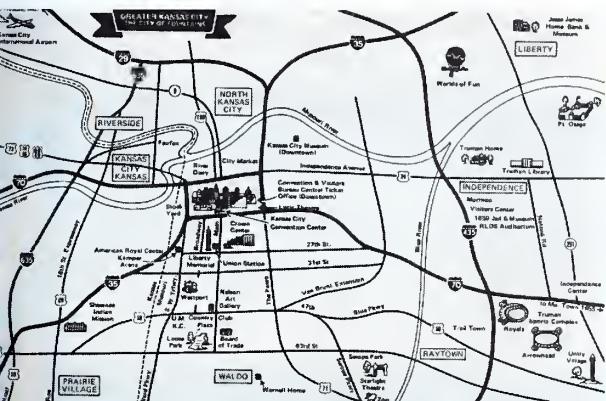
General Director
Youth and Christian Education

WELCOME TO KANSAS CITY

57th General Assembly—August 1–7



CONVENTION CENTER



MAP OF CITY



CROWN CENTER (Foreground)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Monday

Musical Festival

Imperial Ballroom
Muehlebach Hotel

Tuesday

Teen Talent Music —————— Music Hall, Auditorium
Teen Talent Bible —————— Rooms 400, 402, 403, Auditorium
Action Rallies —————— Peacemakers —————— Music Hall
Children —————— Room 600, Auditorium

Wednesday

Teen Talent —————— International Youth Celebration —————— Auditorium
Action Rallies—Children —————— Room 600, Auditorium
Young Adult Fellowship —————— Grand Ballroom

Thursday

Teen Talent —————— Action Rallies—Children —————— Music Hall
Room 600

Friday

Teen Talent —————— Action Rallies—Children —————— Auditorium
Room 600
Youth Ice Cream Festival —————— Imperial Ballroom

Saturday

Action Rallies—Children —————— Room 600
Teen Talent Awards Festival —————— Main Auditorium

Sunday

Youth Night Service —————— Main Auditorium

SPECIAL YOUTH REGISTRATION

Wear an Identification Badge to Show Your Involvement
in General Assembly Activities

Price \$1.00

Registration Booth

Muehlebach Hotel—Monday, August 31, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Teen Talent Competition—Tuesday through Saturday

The Impact of GENERAL ASSEMBLY YOUTH ACTIVITIES

A Review of Twenty-Four Years

From a youth march in the rain to a series of rallies, banquets, entertainment, and worship, youth activities have always been a vital part of the General Assembly program. Highlighted each year by the ever-expanding Teen Talent program, youth involvement has included special music, testimonies, awards, youth speakers, rallies, and a lot of togetherness and shared excitement. Excerpts from reports beginning twenty-four years ago (when your parents were young) show something about the development of the youth program and underscore the common experience of enthusiasm, eagerness, and excitement shared by generations of Church of God young people.

1954 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Characteristic of their stamina, the youth of the Church of God were determined not to let a heavy early evening rain-storm trim the attendance and enthusiasm of their Youth Night program at the Forty-fifth General Assembly of the Church of God. At exactly 7 p.m., approximately two thousand young people began their march from the north end of the spacious Ellis Auditorium in Memphis, Tennessee, to the platform and center section of the building.

1956 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Yes, the youth were there to fill their place in the Forty-sixth General Assembly.

The Youth Service on Thursday night began with the singing of a two-hundred-voice teen choir.

Everyone seemed at his best as the service progressed from the teen choir to the trumpet trio. Then a feature called "Youth in the Spotlight" was presented. It included testimonies given by three young persons from different sections of the United States.



Part of the crowd which attended the youth banquet at the General Assembly in 1960. It convened in Memphis.

1958 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The lights dimmed as the National Bible Quiz Champion was spotlighted against the background of a beautiful replica of the church emblem. The trumpeters blew the fanfare, and Jack Scarborough of Tampa, Florida, received the beautiful Balfour Cup and was announced National Bible Quiz Champion.

1960 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Friday evening was the high point of the Assembly for the teenagers. Over six hundred young people gathered around tables in the Claridge Hotel at the first youth banquet ever held at a General Assembly. The theme, "Youth Witness Now," was emphasized throughout the program.

1962 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Over one hundred Church of God teenagers participated in the Teen Talent Parade and the Bible Quiz at the General Assembly. The Balinese Room of the Hotel Claridge was the point of interest Wednesday afternoon and night for young people, their parents, and their friends. These teens came from twenty-three states and Canada.

1964 DALLAS, TEXAS

Approximately three hundred and fifty teens converged on the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Adolphus on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m., to hear top teen talent, to play a disappearing act with a savory barbecue buffet, to hear John Sims (master of ceremonies), and to thrill to Carl Richardson's challenge—"First Place." If one could judge by applause and apparent involvement, the Teen Banquet would have to be labeled "first rate."

1966 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The Teen Talent Parade was conducted at set intervals during a four-day period to determine national winners. State champions representing five different categories provided a wide variety of musical talent, spiritual entertainment, and youth identification. Competing champions, because of their skill and devotion, presented a compelling challenge to teens in the audience for total surrender and dependable service.

The Reverend Dave Wilkerson, director and founder of Teen Challenge in New York, was guest speaker at the youth banquets.

1968 DALLAS, TEXAS

By all conservative estimates, twenty-five hundred to three thousand youth attended the 1968 General Assembly.

Youth were among the first that began to arrive. They came early for the beginning of the Teen Talent Parade on Tuesday night and stayed until the closing of the great Youth Rally on Sunday.

1970 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The activities actually began on Monday night prior to the official opening of the General Assembly. Hundreds of people, mostly teens, crowded into the Gold Room of the Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel for the big Teen Music Festival. Featured were Teen Talent contestants and several special guests.

While the General Council was in session on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, the youth assembled for two Teen Action Rallies.

There were two banquets—one for the teens and one for the young adults. Miss Ethel Barrett of Gospel Light Publications, Glendale, California, spoke for both gatherings.

1972 DALLAS, TEXAS

In another area of the convention complex, the new art division of Teen Talent made its debut. The response was overwhelming. More than sixty pieces of painting, sculpture, photography, textiles, graphics, and ceramics were on display for eighteen hours throughout the Assembly.

At the gigantic Teen Talent Banquet on Saturday night, the climaxing moment for the 1972 edition of Teen Talent arrived—the announcement of national winners.

It was an ecstatic moment for them. They had won.

1974 DALLAS, TEXAS

There were state winners in each of the three divisions of Teen Talent: Music, Creative Art, and Creative Writing. The quality of talent and the dedication of each participant made the competition very keen. Although national winners were declared, there were no losers. All Teen Talent participants are winners.

On Tuesday and Wednesday nights, while the General Council was in session, young people assembled again in the Convention Center Theater for two Teen Action Rallies.

On Friday night, the teens met again in the theater. This time it was for the Teen Afterglow, featuring Dan McBride, nationally known Christian humorist.

1976 DALLAS, TEXAS

What a service—Youth Night 1976! A dynamic musical program was climaxed by a masterful gospel message—all planned with Church of God young people in mind. Youth Night has been a highlight of many of the fifty-five General Assemblies. However, there was something extra special about Youth Night at the Fifty-sixth General Assembly.

National Teen Talent contestants were featured in the Youth Night musical program. They were featured, however, not as contestants, but as dedicated youth who desire to use their talents in worship and praise to Almighty God.

The more young people are encouraged to move into total involvement in the body of Christ, the brighter our future becomes.

Carolyn Dirksen

Coordinator
Teen Talent Creative Writing

From *How to Overcome Stress and Tension in Your Life* by Teddy Moody Heard. Copyright © 1976 by Wyatt H. Heard. Published by Fleming H. Revell Company. Used by permission.

RIGHT OR WRONG?

By TEDDY MOODY HEARD

Alan Cliburn Photo



My father's verbal, *common-sense* instructions and my mother's verbal, *scriptural* instructions taught me very early that there are sound ways to make decisions—and that those who refuse to decide, nevertheless, are *deciding* to do nothing.

When I was sixteen, a pretty schoolmate asked if she could come home with me after school and talk. She was a vivacious girl who started dating earlier than most, and the boys joked about what a good time anyone had if they took her out.

In my room she closed the door, sat on the bed, and began to weep. At last she confessed that she had slept with a boy and was afraid she was pregnant. "I have ruined my life," she sobbed. "I don't want to be that kind of person. I know I have a bad reputation; and I'm not only scared, but I'm sick about myself. I tried to think how I can change, and suddenly I thought about you. It took a lot of courage, but I knew I wanted to tell you and see if you have any ideas."

During her confession I asked myself: "Why don't I sleep with boys?" Slowly I began to remember how my decision had come about, and told my friend:

"Two years ago Mama told me boys would want to express affection in different ways, and it was important for me to think about the ways I think are okay and those I don't think are okay. She told me three places I could go for information to back up my decision." (I remember my amazement at the intent way my friend listened to every word.)

"First, Mother reminded me of what we always do when there is an important decision to be made: look in the Bible and find out what God says on the subject. Second, she recommended that I read a book on teenage dating to discover good psychological guidelines for setting

values and standards in expressing love before marriage. Then I was to consult my own self, knowing that I want to be God's person and grow into happy, free adulthood."

I described to my friend how Mama gave me an assignment: I was to write down all the verses I could find in the biblical concordance under *love*, *adultery*, *fornication*, and so on. Then I read a book about dating that made good sense to me, putting into modern language many of the same things I had read in the Bible.

Several days later, Mother and I talked more about the subject. I showed her everything I had written down from both books and how alike they were. She explained again that God tells us truths about human nature, as well as Himself, and that if we let Him guide us we may go in a different direction than if we pay no attention to Him.

Mama asked me to divide my new knowledge into two columns listing the facts: FACTS ABOUT SEX BEFORE MARRIAGE and FACTS ABOUT WAITING FOR SEX UNTIL AFTER MARRIAGE. She asked me to put my conclusions and my decision into writing after I completed the lists.

"Well, quick, tell me what happened and what did you decide?" my friend asked.

"There was no doubt about what I wanted to do," I told her. "I just looked at those two lists and knew which one was for me."

"Teddy, you are so lucky you have a mother who showed you

how to do all that," she said.

My friend also learned how to make deliberate and rational decisions instead of living by impulse. The first and most important decision she made was to invite Christ into her heart.

Later, she and I were able to rehearse ways for her to explain to boys that her life was different from the days in which she had courted so freely. She learned to say something like, "This may be hard for you to understand. I like you as my friend but I've changed my mind about how I want to show my friendship for you. That other way was not good for me. We can still be friends and go out if you are willing to let me show my friendship for you in some new ways."

Some of the boys made fun of her and said, "That won't last long," but she began developing a new circle of friends. She started attending church and later became a member. She learned how to receive genuine love, to develop her talents, and to share her faith. Now she is a radiant Christian mother married to one of our city's most successful Christian businessmen.

Today my friend's most wonderful gift is her deep sensitivity to young girls who have not had the benefit of a home in which they are taught sound, life-producing thought patterns. God has used her numerous times to help youngsters take an accurate reading of the truth, to reevaluate personal goals, and to devise a new plan of action. . . . She had a profound influence on my life, too.

I shall never forget the helpless look on her face when she said I was so fortunate to have someone to teach me how to live. At that moment, I realized the responsibility of sharing with others any good thing that someone else shares with us. 

" . . . LOOK IN THE BIBLE AND FIND OUT WHAT GOD SAYS ON THE SUBJECT."

Having job problems?

The Answers Are in the

BIBLE

**By RUSSELL J.
FORNWALT**

Looking for a job? Trying for a promotion? Need help in choosing your life's work? Whatever your employment or career problem, turn to the Bible. The Great Book has all the answers. No better text on vocational guidance has ever been written.

"Freely ye have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8). Those six words are the Bible's great secret for success. Keep them in mind when you choose your vocation, apply for a job, or seek to get ahead.

"For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required" (Luke 12:48). God does not intend that anyone should hide his light under a bushel or bury his talent. In a sense, our aptitudes are on loan. Our job or purpose in life is to develop them fully and to return them to the Creator and Great Giver with interest—interest in the form of dedication and service to all mankind.

What is the best career for you? It is the one to which you can *give* the most. It is that occupation to which you can give your talent, time, temperament, and training.

"And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one" (Matthew 25:15). God has distributed a variety of vocational gifts or aptitudes—all of which can be used for the building of His kingdom here on earth.

Do you like to putter around in the kitchen? Perhaps God has given you creative ability in baking and cooking. If so, there are many careers to which you can dedicate that important ability. You can serve the Lord in children's homes, institutions

view the kingdom of God as the career to which you can fully give your gifts. Whether you work as a porter or a president, an errand boy or an executive, a teacher or a technician, it makes no difference.

for the blind or the aged, hotels, or diet kitchens of hospitals. You may have what it takes for success in a catering service.

Creative people can give their talents to writing poetry, plays, short stories, and religious literature. Others can devote their creative ability to commercial art, costume design, portrait painting, or sculpture.

You may have a flair for working with figures. It is known as clerical aptitude, and you can use it well in such jobs as bookkeeping, accounting, statistical typing, engineering, or computer technology.

Are you the social service type? Do you like to help people in a personal way? If so, you can give your talent to nursing, marriage counseling, the ministry, settlement house work, recreation leadership, camp directing, scouting, rehabilitating addicts, psychotherapy, or the mission field.

Some men and women have great executive or leadership ability. Much indeed is required of them. We need such people to be the heads of government, presidents of corporations, principals of schools, college deans, directors of social agencies, hospital superintendents, and generals of armies.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:33). Vocationally speaking, many

Serve the Lord to the best of your ability and "all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). And vocationally speaking, "these things" are a good salary, security, social status, job stability, personal satisfaction, and the opportunity for self-expression.

Often you will find that a job well done is its own reward. You will find that seeking first the kingdom of God can be a real joy in itself. Then, such material rewards as free lunches, coffee breaks, increments, holidays, sick leaves, pensions, and profit sharing will not seem to be all that important.

Many people want to know the secret for deriving personal satisfaction from their work, especially if their jobs are on the dull or monotonous side. Again, the Bible has the only answer. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over" (Luke 6:38).

There are many ways of giving to your job. Be enthusiastic about your baking, banking, or barbering. Be loyal to your employer. Boost your company's products or services at every opportunity. Be helpful to new employees. Offer constructive suggestions to your foreman or supervisor.

You will find that giving never impoverishes the giver. One of the great secrets of life is that a person can multiply his wealth



by sharing it; he can add to it by giving it away. Work constantly in the spirit of giving and sharing. Then, your job will be a real joy. Your work will be more than merely earning a living—it will be living.

"There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches" (Proverbs 13:7).

Always keep in mind the words in Ecclesiastes 11:1, "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days."

What advice is in the Bible for the job hunter? "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7). To find the position you really want, you may have to do a great deal of asking, seeking, and knocking.

You may have to answer dozens of newspaper ads. To get the right job, you may have to write many letters of application or mail out countless resumes. You may have to knock on many doors.

But never give up! There is a place for your skills and talents in the great world of work. "For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of" (Matthew 6:8).

For every devout Christian a vital part of the job-getting process is prayer—in fact, "prayer . . . without ceasing" (Acts 12:5). This does not mean that you are to go around with any kind of pious look. As you go from office to office, store to

store, or factory to factory, carry a simple prayer in your heart. Say to yourself from time to time, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want" (Psalm 23:1), or "they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing" (Psalm 34:10).

What are prospective employers looking for in a job applicant? The answer to this question is in Philippians 4:8—"Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest . . . whatsoever things are of good report." In other words, the man who does the hiring wants employees with the right attitudes as well as the right aptitudes, with ideals as well as ideas, with character as well as skill.

From time to time, you may be turned down in your job quest or in your desire for a promotion. But do not become discouraged. What often looks like opposition may really be opportunity in disguise.

Keep on keeping on. Failure to land a certain job or promotion may not be failure at all. It may prove to be one more step closer to success.

"He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness" (Psalm 23:3). Keep those reassuring words in mind as you make the rounds of personnel offices and employment agencies or as you take tests for higher positions.

After you get the job your heart is set on and which also happens to be the Lord's will, you will naturally want to keep moving up. Much has been written on how to succeed, but the secret has never been expressed more simply or more eloquently than in Matthew 25:21: "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord." ☩

"THERE IS THAT MAKETH HIMSELF RICH, YET HATH NOTHING: THERE IS THAT MAKETH HIMSELF POOR, YET HATH GREAT RICHES"
(PROVERBS 13:7).

Pathway Pointers

Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education

FINDING GOD'S WILL SEEMS TO BE A GREAT PROBLEM FOR MANY YOUTH TODAY. HOW DID YOU DETERMINE GOD'S WILL AS YOU WERE GROWING UP?

My experience in seeking God's will was probably no different from that of the present young person. I was often in anguish about the matter. Intuitively, I knew God wanted me to be holy, happy, and honest. As I grew in the Lord, I came to realize that the Word of God—the Bible—was my absolute source of direction.

Another momentous discovery with me was to finally understand that God is not capricious. God doesn't play tricks with His children. I came to know that normally God guides believers carefully and lovingly through an understanding of His Word—either by preaching, teaching, or personal study—to apply principles of holy living and triumphant witnessing in their life daily.

TEENS TODAY HAVE MANY AND VARIED OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN CHURCH-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES. WAS THIS TRUE WHEN YOU WERE A TEENAGER?

No, not really! Actually, the church in which I grew up was very much interested in young people, but the activities provided the youth were almost always completely focused toward a worship service context. Young people were encouraged to be in all church services and to actively participate.

Planned social or sports activities were considered rather dubious. Now and then an affair would be planned which would bring young people together in a



This month Lewis J. Willis, director of Public Relations, is featured in Pathway Pointers. The life-style of Brother Willis is characterized by a warm disposition, spiritual perception, and unusual creative expression in journalism. He has served with distinction in the following capacities: evangelist, pastor, state youth and Christian education director, general youth and Christian education director, editor of the *Lighted Pathway*, editor in chief of Church of God publications, state overseer, and a member of numerous boards and committees. His love for young people is reflected in a candid way of sharing in this article.

social context, but this was infrequent.

It should be observed, however, that while these circumstances appear to be narrow and stringent now, they did not seem to be nearly so harsh then. We fretted then as young people do today and wished for more freedom and more attention. More often than not, however, we subconsciously knew that we were loved and that the church really cared about us. And that made the difference!

HOW DID YOU TEACH YOUR DAUGHTER TO TRUST GOD FOR PERSONAL NEEDS DURING HER TEEN YEARS?

One of the first truths about God which I sought to share with my daughter while she was very young was that God is approachable and that He cares. Some of her early prayers were rather ludicrous and amusing, but it was remarkable how often her little poodle "got better" or she found the "lost crayon!" Naturally, as she came to grow in Christ, she also grew in the understanding that, while God can be trusted for one's needs, there are certain rules to be followed.

In addition to teaching my daughter that she must believe that God is (that He actually exists) and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (see Hebrews 11:6), I also sought to impress upon her that it was always necessary to include in her prayer the provision that her request be "according to Thy will, O God." I felt that she must understand clearly that there would be times when it would not be well for God—the all-wise Father—to answer the prayer precisely as she requested. Her trust in God, therefore, had to be sturdy enough for her to accept an answer that was different from her first expectations.

Stress can squeeze years off your life if you don't know how to handle it.



The problem with stress is not how to get rid of it. It's a part of life. And it's not even all bad. The real problem with stress is how to recognize it and control it. So it doesn't control you.

Your body reacts to stressful situations with its nerves, glands and hormones. And because these systems function throughout the body, what affects them can affect other parts of your body that may be vulnerable at the time.

That's why stress is a factor in many people's heart attacks, hypertension, ulcers, asthma, possibly even cancers, and probably many other ailments. That's also why, in these times of many stresses, it's a major factor in increasingly costly health care.

You can recognize stress by heeding the warnings of your body and emotions. Frustration. Anger. Hostilities that build up. Heavy pressures of responsibility time demands and conflict. Headaches, insomnia, muscle tension.

The key to handling stress is learning. Learning to air your feelings in constructive ways, to train your body to relax, to repair a lifestyle before you're faced with expensive medical repairs. You have to learn what your stresses are and the best ways for you to deal with them.

But they must be dealt with. Because the longer you remain in the grip of stress, the more crushing—and costly—its effects.

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ACTION

NEWS & VIEWS

by Lucille Walker

CROSS FOR NORTH SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHURCH

"Not only are we getting a beautiful cross for our church," says Pastor Richard Porterfield, "but our Peacemakers are learning to work together for the Lord."

Twelve youth worked about a week securing pledges to support a rock-a-thon. "We received great support from the church congregation," they report. Three rockers completed the maximum limit of twenty-four hours. The twelve raised more than \$500. "This project worked great for us," declare sponsors Wayne and Nancy Weathers.

GENERATION GAP BASKETBALL CHALLENGE

The Peace Cadets of the Charleston, Tennessee, Church of God called for the help of their older brothers and sisters (the Peacemakers) in challenging their parents to a basketball contest.

"The Peace Cadets thought up the idea, planned it, made posters, sold tickets, and carried it through. It was a great success," says their sponsor Ruby Northam.

Along with the great fun, fellowship, and generation-to-generation communication, the Peace Cadets wanted to realize enough proceeds to purchase a filmstrip projector for the Christian Education Department of their church.

The Ladies Auxiliary added to the total involvement by selling refreshments at the game, which was held in the local high school gym.

Congratulations to the Peace Cadets for involving the whole church and many of those in the community.

—Pastor Jerry Northam



PEACEMAKERS FROM TROY AND HAZEL PARK, MICHIGAN

Peacemakers from the Troy and Hazel Park Churches of God combined efforts to pass out tracts and information to announce to the neighborhood surrounding the Croswell Elementary School in Romeo that a new Church of God had been started in that city.

About 850 invitations to the dedication service were distributed door to door. "The efforts of the young people were evidently successful," reports David Coxton, York minister of youth; "for the gymnasium, which is serving as the site of the new church, was packed to its capacity for the dedication. We praise God for this new work in Romeo."

—David Sustar
State Director



PEACE CADETS— GREAT SUCCESS!

Donna Stark wants everyone to know about the Peace Cadet program. She is pointing to the Gospel Worms in the Peace Cadet classroom. This worm began with a head and one

segment. As the Peace Cadets read in their Bibles, the worm grew. For every five chapters they read, they added a segment to the worm. Some of the children read as many as forty chapters a week.

In September of 1977 when the Peace Cadet program was introduced, the Sandy Valley Church of God in Northern Ohio decided to try it. We are very happy to report that it has been a great success in our church.

Sandy Kesling, Family Training Hour (FTH) junior leader, said that this program has brought new and fresh ideas for classroom study, social activities, and church and community projects. Since September, the children have passed out tracts, visited nursing homes, purchased an aquarium, and prepared it for the Hennis Nursing Home. They have had several monthly social activities, such as a Columbus "Discovery" Day party, a Hobo party, a party at Atwood Lake Lodge, a Valentine party, and several other activities.

The general feeling of the junior leaders and workers in our church is that the program is great. It was easily adapted to the Bible study that we already had in our FTH. Pastor Clifford Hughes, a state youth board member, encourages other churches who have not tried it to contact their state director and get the proper supplies not only for the Peace Cadet program but also for the Peacemakers program.



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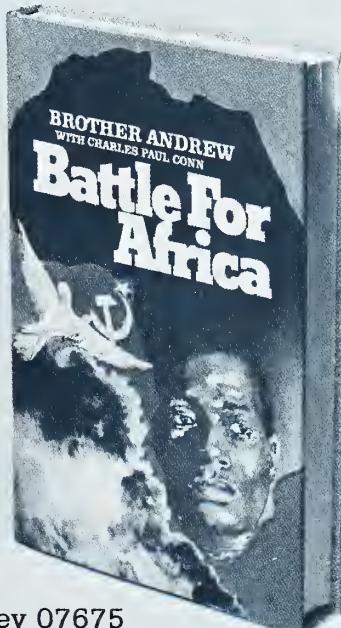
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Keynotes

Mary Morris, an accomplished musician, is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of a Church of God pastor.

By MARY S. MORRIS

COLLEGIATE MUSIC PROGRAMS IN THE CHURCH OF GOD

This is the time of year that high school seniors have been waiting for—graduation! It also is a time to prepare to go to college, especially if you want to further your musical development. If you are interested in attending a Church of God institution for your musical development, the following survey may help you decide exactly which college music program suits your needs.

West Coast Bible College in Fresno, California, offers an associate of arts degree in music (64 credit hours). This program provides a music student with a terminal degree program, or provides the first two years of a bachelor degree program to be completed at another institution (such as Lee College). Other students pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in Christian Ministries or Christian Education at West Coast Bible College may also elect to minor in music.

At Northwest Bible College in Minot, North Dakota, a bachelor of arts degree in music is offered, with emphasis placed on the preparation for the ministry of music. Those wanting a

liberal arts emphasis or certification in public school teaching may transfer after the first two years of study. Frequently, students transfer to nearby Minot State College to finish their bachelor's degree. The B.A. degree in music at Northwest requires the successful completion of 128 hours for graduation. An 18-hour minor in music is also offered to Bible majors.

East Coast Bible College in Charlotte, North Carolina, offers a bachelor of sacred music degree program with 128 hours required for graduation. The emphasis is on preparing for Christian service, and students in other major programs (Bible and Christian Education) may select music as a minor (20 hours). Like the other colleges, students may transfer after the first two years if a liberal arts emphasis is desired.

At Lee College in Cleveland, Tennessee, two degree programs are offered in music: a bachelor of music education degree and a bachelor of arts degree, with either a church music emphasis or a music performance emphasis. Graduation requires the suc-

cessful completion of 130 hours. Like the other colleges, a student with another major may minor in music (18 hours). Lee is the only Church of God college offering a degree certifying a student for public or private school teaching in music (B.M.E.).

It is a significant fact that all Church of God colleges in the United States offer not only music courses, but a music minor (18-20 hours) and a degree in music. Bible schools, institutes, and colleges outside the United States offer some music courses which are usually transferable to our colleges in the United States. For example, credits earned at International Bible College at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan (Canada), are fully transferable to West Coast and Northwest Bible Colleges. If you plan to transfer in the course of your studies, it is a good idea to write the institution to which you will be transferring *in advance* to see which courses are transferable.

Contact the Financial Aid Office of your college for information about financial aid. Also apply at your Youth and Christian Education state office for a possible scholarship. Some music departments, as well as state alumni associations, also have scholarships available. You will need excellent grades to qualify for these scholarships, and you may have to audition for a music department scholarship; but it is worth a try.

Henry Ford once said, "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether this happens at twenty or eighty." So you talented high school graduates, keep stretching your mind by studying, taking music courses, minor in music, or even studying for a degree in music. That is one way to remain young—through music! ☺

Next issue: Questions and Answers



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Take My Van, Precious

By ROBERT R. SEYDA

The question is, What forces of providence could have ever brought about the partnership at Northwest Bible College of Keith Rawlings and Tim Squires? The answer can possibly be found only in the mind of omniscience, because their paths were certainly not destined to cross.

Keith's father died when he was about four years old, leaving his mother with Keith, his older brother, and his younger sister to raise. His sister was invited by a friend to attend the Church of God in St. Louis. Though young, Keith saw a remarkable change in his sister. His interest began to grow and at the age of fifteen, he found Christ as his Savior in the same church.

In the spring of 1960, an unforgettable experience oc-



A child is taught an object lesson.

became a student at Northwest Bible College.

On the other hand, Tim was surrounded by the love of a Christian home, and at the early age of nine experienced conversion. One year later at a youth camp in New York, young Tim heard the call of God to Christian service and surrendered his life. Eight years later he, too, became a student at Northwest Bible College, Minot, North Dakota.

Northwest Bible College is a family. One is not here long before the close-knit fellowship of a small college atmosphere causes everyone to be friends. And so it was that Tim and Keith became friends in the fall of 1975. Tim's parents had moved from New York to Missouri the year before. During the Christmas vacation

curred in Keith's life. Lightning struck the house in which they were living. Unaware of the dangers, Keith was in the house when a natural force sent a tremendous surge of electricity throughout the house setting the roof on fire. However, Keith escaped untouched and unharmed. That summer at a youth camp in Missouri, Keith surrendered his life to the call of Christian service. But it wasn't until fifteen years later that he

of 1976, Keith was invited to ride along with Tim back to Missouri to visit Tim's parents.

After visiting in Missouri, Keith and Tim continued on to New York to visit the church in Waterloo that Tim's parents had pastored for the previous eight years. It was while visiting there on a Tuesday evening in January of 1977 that Keith and Tim were asked to give a presentation to the children.

It just so happened that Keith's mother had given him a Christmas present—a puppet which she had picked up at a rummage sale. So with some hastily written notes and a secondhand puppet, "Truckin' for Jesus" was born.

Since that day in January 1977, Keith and Tim have entertained approximately

thirteen thousand people in over one hundred crusades, while logging in excess of fifteen thousand miles. With their friends Cookie Monster, Freddie Frog, Burp the Pup, Ralph, Boo-Boo Bear, and the other eighteen characters who accompany them, Keith and Tim have seen over 250 children surrender their young lives to Christ. With an even busier year scheduled in 1978, Tim and Keith pooled their resources together in order to buy a van which would be dedicated to this special ministry.

Tim sold his car and Keith sold his stereo and other personal belongings, the proceeds from which added to the small offerings of nickels and dimes that children had given in previous crusades. It was just enough to buy this

used van to carry their entourage to points all over the United States.

The highlight of their blossoming ministry will come in August when, in cooperation with the General Christian Education and Youth Department, "Truckin' for Jesus" will minister to the children attending the General Assembly, Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00-12:00 a.m.

If you have ever tried to keep the attention of five- and six-year-olds for any time at all, you will appreciate the Herculean task which lies before them. But Keith and Tim—far from wanting anyone's sympathy—would rather have everyone's prayers that God will use them to instill in the hearts of children the eternal message that Jesus saves. ☩

Children eagerly participate in activity involving an artist's illustration.



Pictured at right are the opening sessions of the first Youth Bible Institute in the Church of God. Since these pictures were taken, many more young people have enrolled in the institutes.

After securing the approval of this concept from their state overseer, the General Youth Director, and the General Director of Education, the Youth and Christian Education Department of Southern Ohio initiated a new dimension to the Bible Institute Program which could possibly become a permanent part of the national institute program.

The Youth Bible Institutes (which began in February), operating simultaneously with the Ministerial and Lay Institutes, have proven to be a tremendous success. With over 110 registered in this nine-week program, the interest and enrollment of our young people (Peacemakers) have increased each week. One pastor has stated that this is the greatest happening that has occurred in the lives of his youth in years. He currently has nineteen enrolled in the institute.

The material that has been used during the institutes is the Teen Talent Bible Division Competition Study Guide and *The Bible: Book of Books* by Dr. Charles W. Conn.

Upon completion of these sessions, those enrolled will receive a beautiful certificate for their accomplishment. Also, they will have memorized over six hundred facts in areas such as the Book of Acts, Bible doctrine, Church of God distinctives, practical Christian living, world evangelism, personal evangelism, and a history of the Word of God.

We are proud of our youth in Southern Ohio, and we believe that God is going to enable our youth to be a blessing to their local churches through their involvement in these institutes.—*Jerry L. Millwood, State Director*



The Church of God's First Youth Bible Institutes



Middletown, Ohio Youth Bible Institute



Jerry Millwood, state director, gives instructions at Middletown.



The young listen and study at an institute.

FRMILY TRAINING HOUR "STARS"



Family Training Hour officers and workers of the Central Avenue Church of God, Capitol Heights, Maryland

A star is born! Actually, many "stars" have resulted from a project launched by the Central Avenue Church of God, Capitol Heights, Maryland.

The Family Training Hour (FTH) of this church, capably presided over by Mack L. Jones, has sought to motivate its teachers as well as to spark new interest in its program. For three months, the FTH conducted a vigorous contest between the classes to increase the Wednesday night attendance. Stars were awarded weekly to the teacher whose class had the most visitors and the most new members. The best group presentation by a class also earned a star for its respective teacher.

The contest was a successful venture, for it was enthusiastically supported by an active team of workers and teachers. These winners received a star for their weekly efforts. But they, too, will receive an eternal star-studded crown for their Kingdom work.

—Nancy Neal

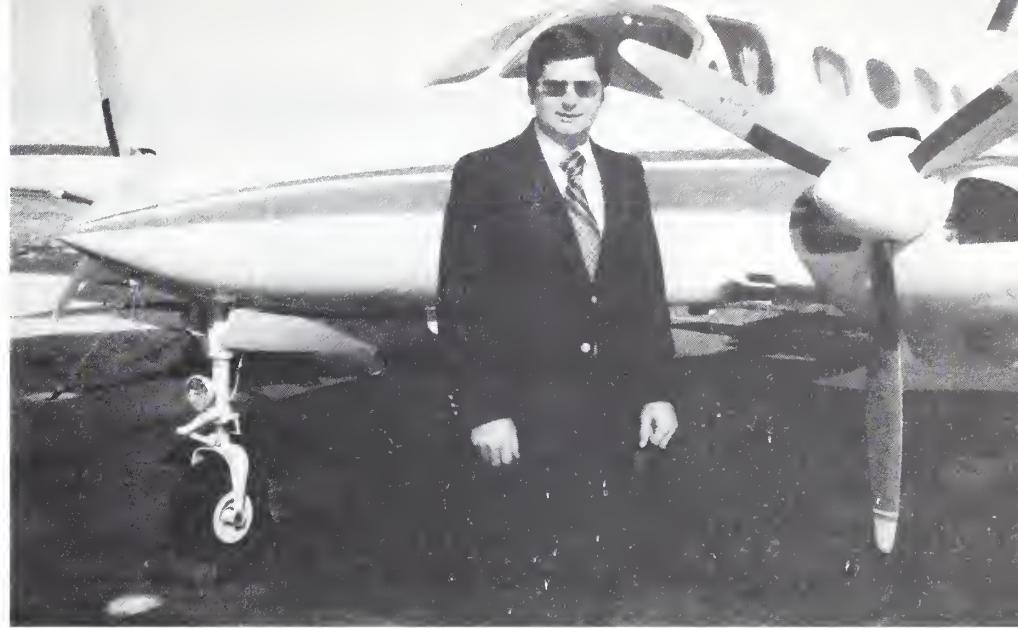
It is almost a thousand miles from Charleston, Mississippi, to Omaha, Nebraska. But more than distance was involved when Charles Ray (Chuck) Duncan decided to leave a successful pastorate to fill the dual role of state youth and Christian education director and state evangelism director of Nebraska.

Not only did his move mean being separated from relatives and lifelong friends, but it also meant a cut in salary from over \$250 a week to less than \$100 a week. But he has found a way to supplement his income.

Brother Duncan, a native of McComb, Mississippi, is a multi-talented person. He has served successfully as a pastor, a district overseer, a district youth director, and a state youth board member. He has a keen interest in young people. His interests range from preaching the gospel to piloting aircraft.

While Brother Duncan was pastoring the Kosciusko, Mississippi, Church of God, a young man visited the church who was enrolled in a flight class. He encouraged Pastor Duncan to attend a class session with him. More out of a pastoral concern for the man than out of an interest in flying aircraft, he agreed to go.

Because of this pastoral concern, Brother Duncan won the man to Christ and the church. He is now the church clerk. But Chuck also found that flying aircraft was an exciting hobby, and he decided to pursue it. By the time he was twenty-three, he had acquired a private pilot's license. Later he earned a commercial pilot's license and an instrument rating, and became a certified flight instructor flying



Chuck poses before his sleek plane before taking off into the air.

Chuck's Chartered Flight Service

By HOMER G. RHER, JR.,

Administrative Editor,
Church of God Evangel

single-engine and multicengine airplanes.

Chuck has found his work with aircraft beneficial in his service for the Lord. As an instructor he has met many people whom he would not have met otherwise. A student pilot always thinks of his instructor as someone special. The relationship that he has cultivated with his students gives Chuck an opportunity to witness for Christ. The student will sometimes come to hear Brother Duncan preach. Many people have visited and united with the Church of God through this contact.

Since Nebraska is a mission state, it cannot pay Chuck a full salary. So he supplements his income by giving flight instructions and by providing chartered flying services. He flies to some of his appointments. He also serves as the "personal pilot" to the Reverend Paul Barker, state overseer.

He can travel a thousand miles in one morning and thus cut down on the travel time to distant appointments.

Four new churches have been organized in Nebraska since the 1976 General Assembly. Brother Duncan has personally organized some of these and has assisted the overseer in starting the other works by flying him to the places and by working with him in these areas. The new churches are in Kearney, Arnold, Columbus, and Bellevue. Bellevue, the newest church, had ninety-six in attendance for Sunday school recently. These are all new people.

In addition to the new churches organized, there have been six new parsonages and four new church buildings erected since the Assembly. Brother Duncan, by using his flying skills, has been helpful in bringing this progress about. ☺



THE BORN LOSER

Art Sansom does a weekly cartoon strip entitled, "The Born Loser." His dominant theme is marriage, and the motif is usually the henpecked husband.

This was the man-wife dialogue in a strip that ran in most Sunday papers the week of November 20, 1977:

Wife: "We used to communicate . . ."

Wife: ". . . But now it seems we operate on different wavelengths."

Wife: "What is it, Darling?"

Wife: "Is it me? Have I changed?"

Wife: "Why can't we talk any more? Tell me! Tell me!"

Husband: "Well . . . I. . . ."

Wife: "Shut up! I haven't finished."

Now that *is* a born loser, wouldn't you agree?

A lot of young people also

think of themselves as born losers. You feel neglected, forsaken, taken advantage of, put down. You suspect that whatever you try is going to fail. No matter the goal, you'll never reach it. You're fighting against the unbeatable odds.

Jesus had something to say on this subject, to both young and old. He observed that we often get our values mixed up and that wrong choices never pay off. And yet, all too often we go on seeking earthly things, catering to worldly values, bowing before mundane gods.

Stephen King is thirty years old. He grew up in Durham, Maine, where he lived in rented houses with outdoor privies. In the summer of 1970, his only job was working in a Laundromat. Stephen is a writer. In terms of success, he *ought* to be

By HOYT E. STONE

happy. He wrote the books *Carrie*, *Salem's Lot*, and *The Shining*. All three have sold exceptionally well, and he received \$400,000 for the paperback rights to *Carrie* alone.

But according to Mel Allen in a *Writer's Digest* article published in June of 1977, Stephen King is a far cry from earthly paradise. He's overweight. He wrestles relentlessly with headaches. He has high blood pressure. Very often he can't sleep. And he constantly frets that he won't live long enough to finish his present novel.

It doesn't have to be that way for Stephen King—nor for you or me. None of us are born losers. We are born with choices, with opportunities, with full access to certain secrets of life. Perhaps we make mistakes, choose wrongly, maybe even get off to a very bad and unpromising start. But even that's not the end of the story. God believes in the comeback, the fresh start, the new beginning. He still welcomes home the prodigals.

I started over at age fifteen—at an altar. And to be honest with you, it's been a great run ever since—as a born-again winner! ☺

Alan Cliburn Photo



"God believes in the comeback, the fresh start, the new beginning."

WHEN HE COMES

"As quickly as you blink your eye...."

I was with Mother in the backyard of our home where she was sweeping leaves with a brush broom. Hearing a rumbling in the distance, she stopped sweeping, looked toward the East, the direction of the noise, where a thunderhead loomed.

"Someday," she said in her quiet voice, "Christ is coming back, and He will come in a cloud, perhaps like that one," she concluded, as she pointed toward the thunderhead.

The rumbling, the cloud, and the thought of Christ appearing perturbed me, and all the while the noise in the cloud's direction became louder. Soon, however, my mind was set at ease, for I heard the faint, distant blowing of the whistle of a freight train, and I knew that the train accounted for the rumbling sound. Of course, soon afterward I learned that the Lord did not give the

doctrine of the Rapture to frighten us, but for comfort and encouragement.

Though you and I get excited about this truth, it must surely sound preposterous to people who hear it for the first time. Yet, that notable book, the Bible, clearly, emphatically teaches the doctrine of the Rapture.

It states: "Take notice; I am telling you a secret. We shall not all fall asleep but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet call. For the trumpet shall peal and the dead shall be raised imperishably, and we shall be

changed" (1 Corinthians 15:51, 52; BERKELEY.)

There will be thousands upon thousands of people who will never die, and if you and I are living for Jesus when He returns, we will be among those thousands. We will take a plain air trip through the sky, past the moon, the stars, the sun, and into heaven. The Bible speaks of how quickly we will be changed: ". . . in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye . . ." (1 Corinthians 15:52).

We will be changed suddenly, as quickly as you blink your eye, and you do that in ten one-hundredths of a second! Little wonder that Christ likens His coming to that of a thief who slips in quickly, and quietly carts off valuables from a home. The Lord will return and secretly sweep us from this world. I hope you are ready for His coming. 





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Blue-Eyes

The Man With the Golden Touch

If I Were a Squirrel

**Sin
Survivors**

page 2

LIGHTED Pathway

GUIDING YOUTH

July, 1978

Volume 49, Number 7

CONTENTS

- 3** Sin Survivors
By Shirley M. Dever
- 6** Why Me, Lord?
By Irma Williams
- 7** Freedom Like the Horse
By Dan Stone
- 8** Blue-Eyes
By James E. Hess
- 10** The Man With the Golden Touch
By James T. Willoughby
- 12** If I Were a Squirrel
By Edward L. Williams
- 14** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 16** YWEA Dateline
By J. Ralph Brewer
- 18** Keynotes
By Mary S. Morris
- 20** Pathway Pointers
- 21** The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
By Nancy Neal
- 22** Messengers of Hope
By Eddie Stone
- 24** Apathy Boulevard
By Barton Green
- 26** Call of the Master
By Samuel D. Adkerson
- 27** Desk of the Editor

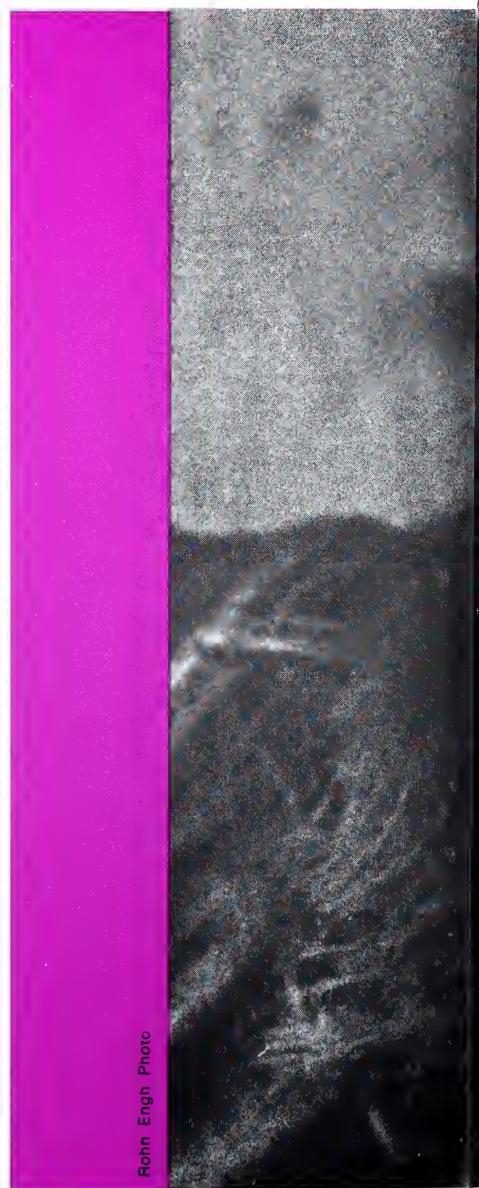
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Sin Survivor



Rohn Eng Photo



Shirley M. Dever

My Christian roommate is one big letdown," a young girl wrote to me, seeking some advice. "I don't know whether to change rooms, to try to help her, or to just leave her alone. What would you do?"

My young friend had indeed tried to help her straying friend in many ways. Now she was seemingly at the end of her rope. We both knew the girl had grown up in a strict and rigid home. College offered

freedom she had never known before. The temptation was too much to resist.

In my letter I wrote, "At least for the moment, I would try separation. You haven't been a believer very long yourself. My fear is that she might break you down. Besides, this inner conflict is bringing down your good grades. You owe your parents more than that!"

The girls did separate. They changed roommates. Several

CONTINUED ➔



"BLESSED [HAPPY] IS THE MAN [BOY OR GIRL] THAT WALKETH NOT IN THE COUNSEL OF THE UNGODLY, NOR STANDETH IN THE WAY OF SINNERS, NOR SITTETH IN THE SEAT OF THE SCORNFUL" (PSALM 1:1).

Sin Survivors

CONTINUED



Alan Ciburn Photo

months later, they were speaking and were pleasant to each other. But they are no longer best friends, nor do they plan to resume their formerly close relationship.

"Does the Bible tell us how to survive in a world of sin?" a number of young people have asked me. I found an answer, or rather several answers, in Psalm 1.

Meditate with me on just the first verse.

"Blessed [happy] is the man [boy or girl] that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."

What does this really mean? What are we being told not to do? First, we are not to take the advice of ungodly people. There are two kinds of people—believers and unbelievers. We must be careful not to take counsel from the latter to heart. Next, we are to be sure that we do not stand in sin ourselves. A popular saying is, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." This does not apply to the relationship between a believer and an unbeliever (or backslider). Last, we are to refuse to sit on the sidelines and make fun of believers who are trying to help others: Sunday school teachers, preachers, missionaries, or Christian workers. We look up to them and are unhappy when someone calls them fools.

A number of years ago I took the advice of several ungodly persons and became interested in astrology. The best move I made in many years

was the day I took out all the magazines and books and notes and burned them. Why did I do this? I knew that the occult, in every shape and form, was wrong. During the course of my private prayer-times, the Lord was able to get through to me to put an end to this sin with a big bonfire!

Someone has aptly said that a person either follows God or Satan. Before I believed this, I kept getting into trouble by taking advice from the wrong people. Now I look at some people and I just know, from the lives they lead, that they are what I call "Satanized." I fear them as I fear the wiles of the devil. I know he has them in his grasp by the things they do. My greatest need is to separate from them and their evil ways.

A boy said to me, "But Shirley, it's hard to give up a good friend, even if he is doing wrong!"

I replied, "You mean in this overpopulated time of history, you insist on being that tied to one special friend?"

Don't get me wrong. I believe in practicing agape love (brotherly or principled love) toward all human beings. But this doesn't mean I have to like everyone. It doesn't mean I have to remain best friends with someone who keeps trying to lead me astray. It means mainly that I wish only the best for everyone. I leave all revenge up to the Lord and toss out thoughts of resentment, instead of harboring them inside. I can do this, because I've committed my life to the Lord. He will take care of those other people in my life—especially my enemies!

"How do you break up with someone who is leading you in the wrong paths?" young people ask me.



The way that works best for me is to say no to invitations, requests for favors, and the like. It is the same method girls use when they have to turn down a certain boy for a date. If he keeps on calling, they keep right on saying no. In time he usually gets the message!

What can you do to get the inner strength you need to be a sin survivor? Psalm 1 has the answer. "His delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." The more spiritual food you obtain by studying the Bible, the more your appetite is whetted to feed on more of the Word. That's just the way it is!

After this answer from verse



2, move on to verse 3. It tells you about the neat results. You'll be like a tree planted by streams of water; that is fruitful (you will be productive), and your leaf shall not wither (you will be prosperous). In fact, the psalm promises that in all that a sin survivor does, he prospers (he is successful). How about that?

This revealing psalm ends in a sad way, telling of the final doom of those who do not follow the Lord. The psalmist insists that "the way of the ungodly shall perish."

Once again we see a comparison of what shall ultimately happen to the two types of people—those who reject Jesus meet an end far different from those who accept Him.

The struggle to be a sin survivor never ends. The wicked will always be with us. In the world, they form a majority; we believers are in the minority.

It's true. We are to try to lead the lost to the Lord. Yet, in some cases, we cannot fight the sin factor. Then it is wise to *separate* as Paul advises: "What has a believer in common with an unbeliever?" (2 Corinthians 6:15, *Amplified*) Paul asks. Then he reminds us that we are temples of the Living God!

"Do I try to reach them, or do I leave them alone?" a young girl asked me in confusion.

It depends on the person. Are you strong enough to help without being led into sin? If so, you may be able to lead this boy or girl to the Lord. But if someone has *really* gone astray, you just might drown with him if you try to reach him!

The only way to receive enough wisdom to know the difference is to go to God in prayer. Then wait for His answer and guidance. <xo>

Why Me, LORD?

by
Irma Williams



Today I was talking with a friend who was feeling sorry for herself. "Why me, Lord? Why did this have to happen to me?"

I happened to know that the Lord had been gracious to her. She had been healed by the touch of the Lord several times within her short span of years; the Lord had blessed her with a fine family to love her; she lived in a very pretty house. But this particular week she had become sick and then discouraged. Self-pity bewitched her emotions, and she felt that the Lord and others owed her everything.

This incident caused me to ponder the answer to these questions: Why me, Lord? Why have You kept me from dreaded diseases such as cancer? Why have You healed me so many times? Why did You answer my prayer and heal my children? Why have You blessed me with good health, with a nice home, with so many friends who care, and with such a beautiful world? Why did You allow me to enjoy the warm sunshine, the songbirds, the delicate roses, the tall trees in my yard, the beautiful group of church people to work with, and loved ones who care and help each other? Why, Lord? *I am not a robot; for I think, I feel, and I cry. I am not computerized; for I see, I touch, I have emotions. I am not an angel, for I am free to choose. I am a free individual—free to feel pain and happiness; free to choose and decide many things, including my attitude.*

After this brain work, I decided to talk with my friend again. I did. I asked her, "Have you ever asked the Lord the 'why me' question when everything was going your way?"

H. Armstrong Roberts Photo

While riding down the road today,
I saw a horse.
He was running as fast as his legs could carry him.
As he ran, he held his head high, as if he were pro-
claiming his own
Declaration of Independence!
He seemed to be shouting to the world—
I'm free!
I'm free!
Free from what?
What was he running from?
Was he escaping from the cruelty of his master?
Could he have been heeding some strange "call of
the wild" too faint for human ears to perceive?
Or was he merely surrendering to the inner need
that burns in the hearts of men and animals alike
—the need for freedom?
I don't know why he was running.
I guess I'll never know.
All I know is that I wish I had *freedom like the horse*.



FREEDOM LIKE THE HORSE

by Dan Stone

BLUE-EYES



by James E. Hess

I NEVER TOLD HER ABOUT JESUS. I NEVER WITNESSED TO HER ONE TIME. O GOD!

Breaker 19—how about a front door?" said Johnny as he sped down the interstate.

"You got one. Get back," came the pretty voice from the airway. "This is 'Blue-Eyes' from Birmingham, and I'm headed for Houston. Keep that back door closed, and I'll watch the front door."

"That's a big 10-4," said Johnny. His heart raced almost as fast as his car.

Johnny was a senior at Christian Bible College in Dallas, Texas, and was on his way back after a break from school. From Atlanta, Georgia, to Dallas is a long drive, but with "Blue-Eyes" as a front door, the trip could prove to be very interesting.

Their conversation continued as the sun was setting. On into the night they traveled and talked. Johnny learned that "Blue-Eyes" was a junior at State College, and he was amazed at how much they had in common. They both loved the outdoors and especially rafting down a rapid river. Johnny was studying for the ministry and "Blue-Eyes" was studying to be an elementary school teacher.

My, how time has gone by. She is a great sounding girl. I wonder if she knows God—suddenly, he snapped back to reality as he noticed an empty gas gauge. "Blue-Eyes, I'll catch you in a short-short. Don't drive too fast."

"10-4," came her reply. "I'll

back it down and go slow."

Can't he pump gas any faster than this, thought Johnny as he sat impatiently waiting at the service station. "Oil's okay, but thanks anyway."

As he sped down the ramp to get back on the super slab, Johnny said aloud to himself, "Man, that seemed like an eternity."

Johnny quickly built his speed up to seventy miles an hour and knew that he would soon catch her. "Now what's happening?" he asked as he saw the eighteen-wheelers slowing down and almost stopping.

"Bad wreck ahead in the westbound lane," came the word from an eastbounder.

"I'll never catch her now," he said as he pounded the dash of his Firebird. "I might as well get out and see what has happened." He pulled to the side and flipped his emergency blinkers on.

Tears flooded his eyes. His knees began to tremble. There beside the road, covered by a blanket, was the petite form of a young woman. There were no other passengers in the wrecked car. The words, "Blue-Eyes" were printed on the rear window of the mangled vehicle. She was gone now, so Johnny went back to his car, slumped over the steering wheel, and wept like a baby.

Then the thought raced through his mind, or maybe it was God talking to him: *I never told her about Jesus. I never witnessed to her one time. O God! What has happen-*

ed to me? Here I am, preparing for the ministry, and during these hours, I never said a word about You.

His mind wandered back to the past few months. *Why, with all my studying and other activities, I've been too busy to pray. I guess I've missed a few chapel services that I could have made and maybe some dorm devotions.*

Finally, Johnny realized that, in preparing to work for God, he had neglected his spiritual life. "O God," he began in a prayer of repentance and new commitment.

Thump-thump! It was the state trooper knocking on Johnny's window. "You okay, son? Did you know her?"

Johnny pulled out on the highway and drove on toward Dallas, this time more slowly. "God," he said, "I know I failed You, but from now on, my spiritual life will be first. Then, I know my life, academically and otherwise, will be better also."

Later, Johnny sat reading the newspaper account of the accident. All of a sudden, he shouted "Hallelujah—praise the Lord!" "Blue-Eyes" was a Christian. According to the paper, she was chairman of a Bible group and was an active worker in her church. He was thrilled to know that she knew Jesus. "Thank You, God, for the front door You sent my way. She has changed my life." 

The most important determinant of psychological development in an infant is the warmth it feels from touching its mother. This "contact comfort" breeds trust, the lack of which will prove detrimental to the proper development of the child. As a child grows older, he learns to extend his hand to greet a friend. Then, later still, what a thrilling moment it is when he hesitantly reaches over to take the hand of a girl for the first time. His touch reveals his esteem for her. Touching means closeness, intimacy, confidence, and love.

Even in children's literature, emphasis on the significance of touching can be found in the story of King Midas. He wished that everything he touched would turn to gold. The greedy king did indeed receive the golden touch, and he used it to turn everything around him into gold. Later, a wiser, penitent king it was who pleaded for his unnatural power to be taken away.

In Mark 1:40-45, a leper came and threw himself at the feet of Christ, asking to be cleansed. The plight of the leper was truly pitiable. Lepers were banished from within city walls and were forced to live in special dwelling places for lepers. They were also compelled by law to cry, "Unclean, unclean," when anyone came near them.

There are three types of leprosy. The first type, nodular or tubercular leprosy, lasts approximately nine years. The symptoms include symmetrical, discolored patches that form on the back. As the disease progresses, nodules appear on the face and distort it beyond recognition. The nodules eventually ulcerate and emit a foul discharge. Other symptoms also occur.

The second type of leprosy is called anesthetic leprosy. The initial stages are the same as those

**TOUCHING MEANS
CLOSENESS,
INTIMACY,
CONFIDENCE,
AND LOVE.**

of nodular leprosy. In addition, this type numbs the nerve endings. The muscles contract until the hands resemble claws and the fingers finally rot off completely. This steadily progressive death extends from twenty to thirty years.

The third type of leprosy is a combination of the other two types.

The leprosy of the man involved in this incident was probably fully developed. Leprosy is no longer contagious in its last stages. Therefore, the leper was allowed to spend his remaining days in the city. This explains his presence in the crowd.

We may visualize the horrendous sight this unidentifiable being must have presented as he flung himself at the feet of the Master. Yet, the Scripture does not tell us that Jesus angrily kicked the man aside at his unannounced appearance—as most would have done—but rather that He was moved with compassion. In spontaneous sympathy, He mercifully stretched forth His hand and touched the wretch.

There it is! It actually happened! To the amazement of everyone present, the golden touch of the Master was actually felt by the outcast. The loving hand of the Savior really touched the loathsome creature sprawled at His feet. The beggar who had been scorned by society, rejected by his own family, and shunned by all for the first time in years knew the joy of having someone to care. That single touch accomplished more in a moment than a thousand physicians ever could. Emotionally, as well as physical-

ly, the leper was transformed. At long last, after years of searching, he had found someone who could look beyond the hideous, decaying body and see the lonesome, dying man on the inside. He had found the Master!

Mark relates to us the marvelous result of the Master's touch. "Immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed" (Mark 1:42). Complete healing stood as a monument to the touch of the Lord. No matter what the affliction, God's touch brings relief. The never-failing touch of the Lord equals any circumstance, situation, or problem. His touch pulsates with love, strength, and power. It places hope where there was previously no hope and life where it was not known before.

After cleansing the leper, Christ commanded him to tell no one of the miracle, but to go show himself to the priest and to partake of the ceremonial rites necessary for complete restoration into society. This was to be done in accordance to Mosaic law. The well-intentioned leper, however, had other plans. He departed and began to tell everyone about his marvelous cleansing. Although he gave Christ the praise, he did so in direct disobedience to the Lord's command. This insubordinate action hardly exemplified a man whose life had just been transformed by the Master. Yet, there are those even today who testify of transformation, but who continue to walk in disobedience to the Scriptures. Obedience, still, is better than sacrifice.

Christ had a divine reason for telling the leper to remain silent. He needed to preach the gospel to the people. When they heard of His power, though, He was flooded with requests to heal the sick. He would have been delighted to relieve the suffering of the afflicted, but He realized that salvation of the soul was more

important than salvation of the body. The people, it seems, were not interested in what He had to say, but only in what He could do for them. They were so carried away in their selfishness that Christ could not perform the higher good that He so desperately desired to perform. He offered the message of hope and eternal life; but they ignored these commodities for the miraculous, yet less important, physical healing that He could provide.

When the leper knelt at the Master's feet, he said, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean" (Mark 1:40). He gave a tremendous testimony to the power

of Christ, but at the same time, he seemed a bit unsure of the Savior's willingness. As we can see from this incident, we need not question the willingness of the Savior to give us the touch we need. Christ unhesitatingly replied to the humble plea, "I will; be thou clean" (v. 41).

Perhaps you have seen a tag team wrestling match. Sometimes a wrestler will get into trouble because of weakness, fatigue, or exhaustion. The opponent can then win the match. However, in tag team wrestling, there awaits a partner outside of the ring who may enter upon being tagged and fight in the place of his falter-

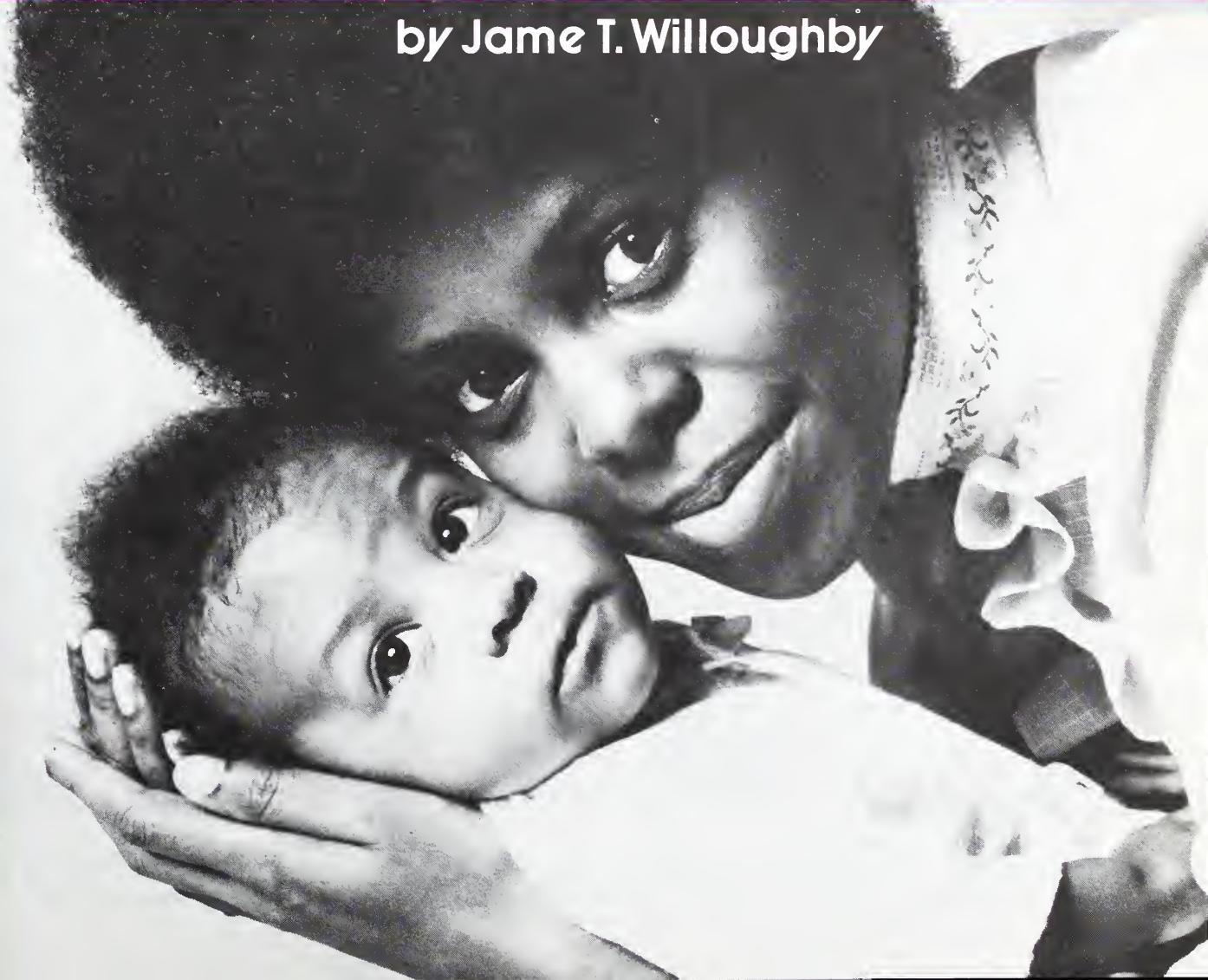
ing teammate. When a wrestler gets into trouble, you can see his strong, rested teammate, standing in the corner, reaching out so his partner can make the tag.

Even so, the Lord Jesus constantly reaches out to touch us. He watches over the arena of life with His hand of love outstretched, waiting and willing to relieve the faint, the helpless, the weary, and even the beaten. All we have to do is reach up and touch Him, and He will renew our strength. His words to the leper remain, "I will."

The leper dared to carry his need to the Man with the golden touch. Will you? 

THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH

by Jame T. Willoughby





IF I WERE A SQUIRREL

by Edward L. Williams

On the cold day of January 21, 1978, I looked out the window and observed some squirrels playing in the stretch of woods behind my house. There was snow on the ground; it appeared to be covered with a white blanket. The squirrels seemed to be having a delightful time. I thought to myself, *If I were a squirrel, I would not know the meaning of sorrow, pain, or grief.*

On this particular day there was little to be happy about. My father, H. D. Williams, had died suddenly the day before. I sensed the loneliness that only death can bring. I also thought, *How quickly death severs all earthly ties; I can no longer talk with him or see his warm smile.* My heart was heavy with grief.

Suddenly, a new feeling swept over me. Right in the moment of grief, I sensed joy and peace. I looked at the squirrels again and thought, *If I were a squirrel, neither would I know the meaning of happiness nor have a memory to recall the kindness of my father during my days as a child, as a stumbling teenager, and as a beginning preacher.*

Silently, I offered a prayer of thanksgiving in my heart: "Thank You, God, that I am not a squirrel but a human being who can know the meaning of both grief and joy. God, You do all things well; to You be the glory, now and forevermore." 

Dr. Edward L. Williams is Assistant Professor of Religion at Lee College.



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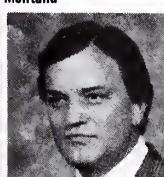
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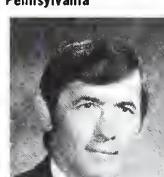
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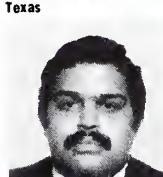
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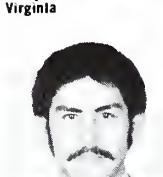
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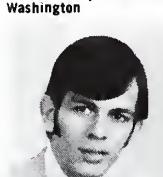
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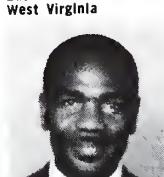
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Committed Lives for Committed Service

State youth and Christian education directors are men who have committed their lives to Jesus Christ and to guiding young people. This commitment to the cause of Christ results in committed service. The state

director lives a self-emptying life. His time and attention are given to the youth of the Church of God through programs and activities promoted in love: Peacemakers, Peace Cadets, youth camps, Family Training Hour, Teen Talent, youth days, and other special events. We take this opportunity to commend them for their committed lives and committed service.

ACTION

NEWS & VIEWS

by Lucille Walker

VIRGINIA PEACEMAKER ACHIEVES HONORS

LeNaye Stanfield of the Lake Braddock Church of God in Burke, Virginia, has brought honor to herself and to her church through several outstanding achievements. LeNaye was student director of Lake Braddock High School Symphonic Band, which recently won first place in the International Band Festival in Quebec, Canada. She attended the Governor's School for the Gifted in Virginia and was named to Who's Who in American High Schools and to Who's Who in Music in American High Schools. She was a member of the National Honor Society and served as a volunteer worker at the Leewood Nursing Home in Annandale. She plays her trumpet and sings in the local church and is a member of the Springs of Life music ensemble.

LeNaye plans to attend Lee College in the fall.

We praise God for Peacemakers who develop and use their talents for the glory of God.

WILLIAMSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Williamsburg Church of God is thankful for the Peacemakers of our local church. The attendance averages twenty-four. We meet each Wednesday night during Family Training Hour and have a class session for one-half hour. After this period we have fun and fellowship in the annex playing shuffleboard,

Timothy Johnson



Ping-Pong, handball, and air hockey; and we listen to Christian records and tapes. We have a social activity each month.

The Peacemakers have participated in many of the service projects suggested in the Peacemakers Resource Manual. Seven of our Peacemakers are participating in Teen Talent this year.

We are busy raising money for YWEA by having bake sales and by selling combs. A bike-a-thon and candy bar sales are being planned.

For the month of March we had "Talent Night" (together with the Peace Cadets) here at our local church and served cookies and punch to everyone after the service.

Thanks to the Church of God, the Williamsburg Peacemakers now have "a creed to live by, a cause to serve, and a banner to wave."

—Earl Cushman
State Director

THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD EARNS MASTER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SERVICE DIPLOMA

Our congratulations go to Timothy Johnson, thirteen, of Tampa, Florida, for recently being awarded the highest honor given in the Church Training Course program. His achievement has been recognized by our General Overseer, the Reverend Cecil B. Knight, and by our General Director of Youth and Christian Education, the Reverend Floyd D. Carey.

To earn the Master Christian Education Service Training Diploma, Timothy had to fulfill the following requirements: earn one diploma in the 200 Series (Bible Series), earn one diploma in any other series, and earn at least ten other certificates.

Timothy began studies in the Church Training Course series as a part of family devotion and Bible study and was encouraged by his Sunday school teacher, Lois Maples, of Oakland, Tennessee.

Timothy has certainly shown that a Peacemaker can excel in the field of Christian education. The Youth and Christian Education Department in Florida commends Timothy for earning such high honor and recognition in Christian education.

Timothy is the son of the Reverend and Mrs. Charles Johnson, managers of the Pathway Bookstore in Tampa.

—Robert Cary
State Director

You'd stay frisky, too, if your diet were this well balanced.



It's easy for the family pet to eat right. You supply one good food, a little attention, and that's about all he needs to keep his tail wagging.

For you, it's not quite so simple. It takes a variety of foods; no single one will do. It takes planning to get the right nutritional balance every day. It takes careful selection to make sure you're getting good foods. Only you can make it happen.

But it's worth the effort. Because you have to stay healthy to feel good every day. And the healthier you stay, the lower your costs will be in the long run for doctors and hospitals and other health care.

So pay some attention to you.
Make sure you're feeding yourself as
properly as you feed your dog.

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YWEA BATELINE



Prepared by General Department of Youth and Christian Education, J. Ralph Brewer, Administrative Assistant

NEW YORK CITY INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

Church of God young people are presently involved in fund-raising activities to erect an international church in New York City. According to reports received in the General Department, the current project is generating a great deal of excitement across the nation as young people involve themselves in such projects as bake sales, car washes, bike-a-thons, rock-a-thons, saving programs, and many other unique projects.

The New York City International Church will be a multipurpose complex providing a dynamic ministry of outreach and witness to the city, a worship center for several nationalities, and an in-service training program for prospective missionaries prior to overseas assignment. A full report of the 1978 YWEA project will appear in the October issue of the *LIGHTED PATHWAY*.

SEOUL, KOREA, BIBLE SCHOOL MARCH OF PROGRESS

The Bible school in Seoul, Korea, continues to march forward with promise and progress. On December 1, 1977, thirty-one graduates received their diplomas and were immediately assigned to active positions of leadership. Some took their positions

as pastors and leaders in local churches already established; others were assigned to new areas as yet unreached with the Church of God message. Overseer Han indicates that this group of graduates are "passionate, lively, and active in all aspects of the ministry and have a strong faith in the Lord."

As a result of the young people of the Church of God responding to the 1977 YWEA Project in raising \$479,754.37 to construct a Bible school in Seoul, Korea, a masterplan has been developed for the construction of the new school. Groundwork has been completed, and a projected date for completing the facilities is early summer.

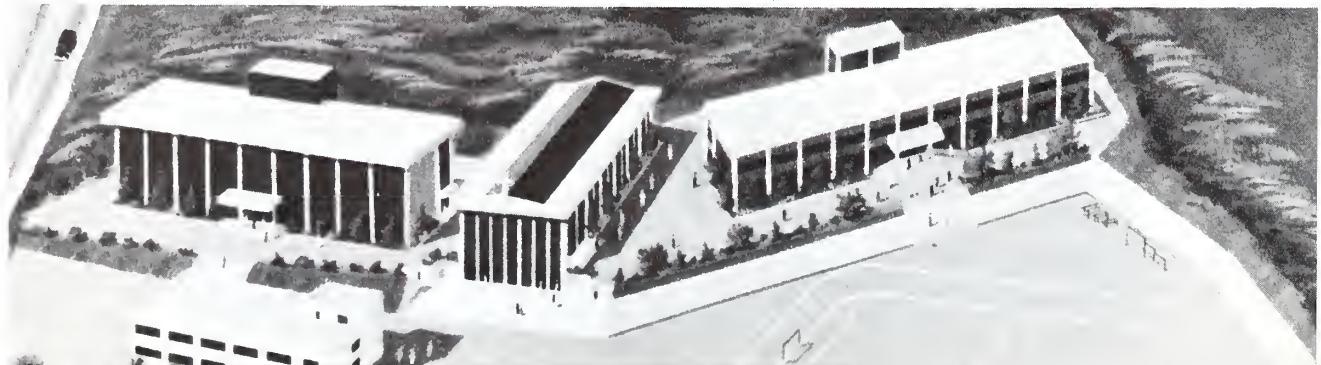
BETHESDA BIBLE COLLEGE PROGRESS REPORT DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

The South African Indian Bible School which became a reality as a result of the 1973 YWEA project continues to make progress. Classes are conducted from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily, with the projection of eleven evening courses a week in 1978. An active part-time program has also been established by the school, with over 300 part-time students presently enrolled. The school continues to exert a strong influence in the area of ministerial training and conducts an active program to prepare young men and women to serve the Lord effectively.

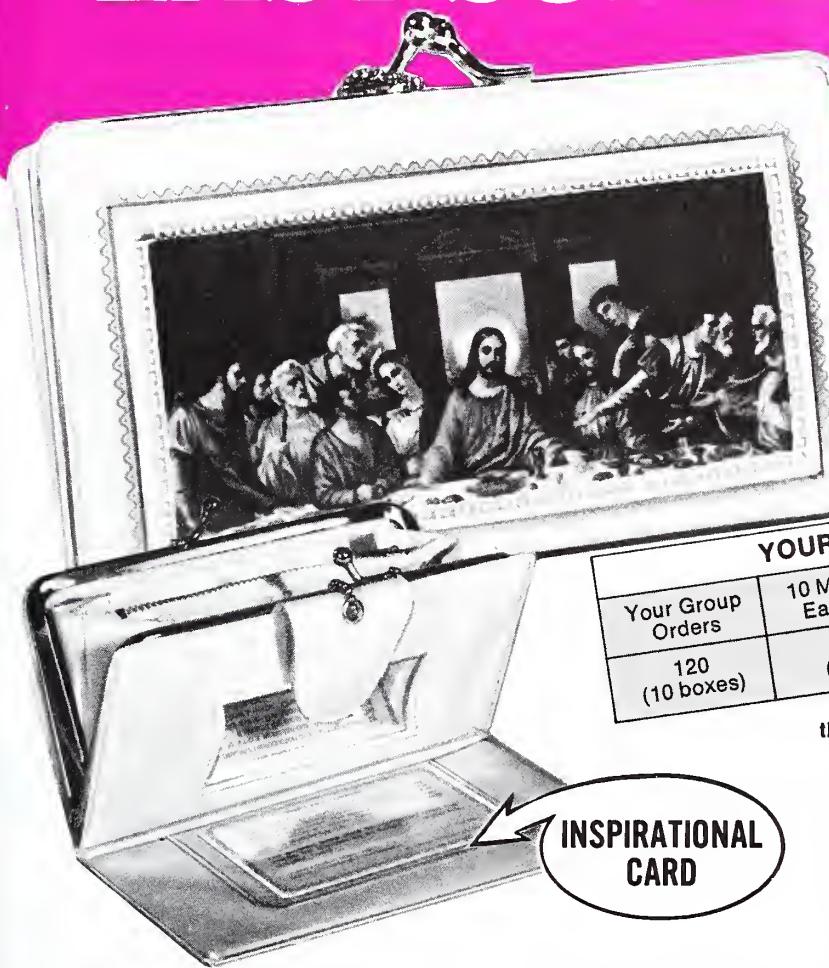
Pictured below is the recent graduating class of the Seoul, Korea, Bible School.



Below is the artist's drawing of the beautiful YWEA Bible school in Seoul.



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Keynotes

Mary Morris, an accomplished musician, is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of a Church of God pastor.

by Mary S. Morris

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Where can I, as a young songwriter, get my songs published and set to music? I am eighteen years old and have no money to pay for my own printing.—*Virginia*

A. First you must get your songs transcribed into music notation. Try to locate someone nearby with this skill and offer to pay for his services. Contact your local high school band or choral director or a local private teacher who may know someone with this skill. Also inquire in other churches to see if any music director can help you.

If all else fails, then record your songs with accompaniment on a reel-to-reel or cassette tape recorder and send

to your choice of a publisher. Publishers prefer songs to be in written form when received, but some provide transcribing services for a fee. Enclose a cover letter requesting consideration of your songs for publication by their company. Be sure to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope (like the one you sent them) for the return of your tape and their reply. If the first publisher does not accept your songs, then send them to another.

Don't forget to include Tennessee Music and Printing Company, 922 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, TN 37311 on your list, as well as John T. Benson Company and others. Your local Christian bookstore should have an up-to-date listing of gospel music publishers and their addresses. For a listing of publishers who are selling their publications well, refer to the latest issue of *Billboard*, which is available at your local public or college library or through interlibrary loan.

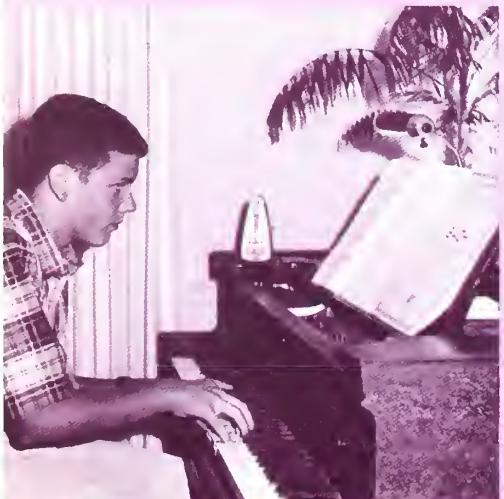
Q. I play the piano by note and am frequently asked to

play for church services. I do not know how to play by chords or to lower a song. Where could I get help?—*Ohio*

A. Playing by chords is a typical "gospel piano style," where your left hand alternates between playing octaves and chords. Ideally, you should locate a teacher who can show you these techniques. The techniques do take practice, but they are not difficult to master. The other alternative is to buy a good self-instruction book in gospel piano playing at your local music or Christian bookstore and start practicing. Do not move from one step to the next without *mastering* the step you are on.

Lowering a song is called "transposition"; it can also be mastered by practicing. Think of your scale letters as numbers. For example in the key of C, think of C-D-E-F-G as 1-2-3-4-5. Transpose the numbers to the key of F, and you will play F-G-A-B flat-C. Look at the melody of an easy hymn and play it by scale degrees. For example, the hymn "Just As I Am" has the following scale-degree series (numbers): 1-2-3-3-5-4-3-2-3-4-3, and so on. Practice that series in several different keys until you have mastered it. Practice your other parts in the same way until you can play it correctly with both hands. When accompanying someone who regularly requests a song to be lowered or raised, ask them to give you their selection well ahead of time in order for you to have time to master the new key. As you keep practicing this technique, you will find it easier to do each time. ☺

Next issue: "More Questions and Answers"



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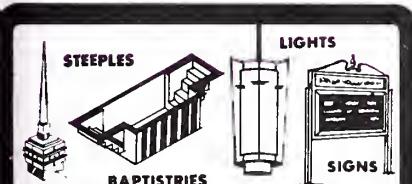
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Pathway Pointers

Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education

THERE SEEMS TO BE A NEW SPIRIT OF EXCITEMENT AMONG OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TOWARD STUDYING THE BIBLE. IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT HAS CAUSED THIS?

The recent history of youth unrest, unpopular war, riots, drugs, economic uncertainty, the multiplicity of cults, preoccupation with death, renewed interest in the possibility of extra-terrestrial life—all these factors combine to produce a fervent desire on the part of young people for something absolute, concrete, and certain.

Young people are realizing that the Rock of Ages, God's Word, has withstood attacks throughout the centuries and has survived intact. It has eternal answers for today's questions.

Too, our church through its new Teen Talent Bible Division and its emphasis upon Bible study in the Peacemakers setting has spurred new interest in God's Word.

HOW CAN APPLYING GOD'S WORD TO DAILY LIFE HELP OUR TEEN-AGERS LIVE SUCCESSFULLY AND HAPPILY?

As I see it, God's Word is more than magnificent literature and pleasant reading material. It is a guidebook for man which shows how God intends for him to live. It gathers up rules for conduct and guidelines for attitudes. Admittedly, it is sometimes rigid and unbending (as someone has pointed out that God does not give us "Ten Suggestions," but rather "Ten Commandments"), but it makes sense.

Who would purchase a new appliance and discard the operating instructions, or who would attempt to assemble a motorcycle using instructions for putting together a baby buggy? That essentially is what a young person does when he disregards God's Word or ignores it.

Men through the ages have testified that God's way, written in His Word and witnessed by His Son, is the best. I have found it to be true.

"My father and mother revered the Bible . . ."

AS YOU WERE GROWING UP, HOW DID YOUR PARENTS GUIDE YOU IN GAINING A KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD OF GOD?

Three elements from my home-life contributed to my knowledge of the Bible. First, my father and mother revered the Bible; to them it was truly God's Book. They acknowledged that the first word in the Bible is not "in the beginning," but it is the word "Holy" in the name, Holy Bible. They treated it with awe and respect. Second, they constantly practiced its precepts. To them it was more than a fanciful ideal; it was a blueprint for living that could be translated into everyday circumstances. Third, in our home we set aside a definite period of time each day to read the Bible and pray.

I believe any young person whose parents adopt these attitudes and practices will be spiritually richer for it.



The Reverend T. L. Lowery is the third assistant general overseer and the liaison to the General Department of Youth and Christian Education. Brother Lowery has a great compassion for people, and he is known for his evangelistic fervor in reaching them with the gospel message and with the programs of the Church of God. He has preached in crusades around the world and has written numerous books. *Youth Should Know* is the title of the book that he has written especially for young people. Brother Lowery has a deep love for young people, as revealed in the answers to the questions in this month's *Pathway Pointers*.

Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

These few words are inscribed in a stone edifice in Arlington, Virginia. The inscription is a memorial epitaph to a man who gave his all—not only in his effort, but in his very life. And yet, no one knows his name.

Traverse to the Hall of Fame. View the gallery of men and women lauded for their achievements in a multitude of areas. Their acclaim has been shouted from the rooftops.

Then move just beyond those pearly gates. Seated on the right hand of His Father is another man. He "went about doing good" (Acts 10:38). For His accomplishments, He received a crown of thorns, a roughhewn cross, and nails for His hands and feet. And when He was laid to rest, He even had a borrowed tomb.

How do you feel? Granted, every well-adjusted person needs a certain amount of recognition to maintain a sense of stability. Far too often, however, that recognition fails to reach you at the time you need it most. Thus, you adopt the philosophy, "I've done my part; let George do something." But you cannot stand by and let George continue to do it. George has been doing far too much of it. You cannot be complacent and just keep smiling—it will only make people look at you and wonder what you've been up to. You cannot remain silent—it will only focus the spotlight of attention upon the noisy few. You cannot sit back and fail to become involved in matters that affect your neighbors—we are all neighbors and must be concerned about the welfare of our fellowmen.

In Christian service, perhaps 95 percent fail to receive due recognition of labors and works. That leaves only a mere 5 percent

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

by Nancy Neal

who remain in the limelight. But that 5 percent continues to forge ahead regardless of pitfalls or setbacks or hurt feelings. Do they take time to be discouraged and say, "Well, just let George do it. He's the only one who ever gets to do anything anyway"? Apparently, they pick themselves up, dust themselves off, and proceed full steam ahead with more effort and determination than before.

Dean Alfange once said: *I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon, if I can. I seek opportunity—not security. . . . I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build, to fail and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenges of life to a guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia. . . . It is my*

heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations and to face the world boldly and say—"With God's help, this I have done."

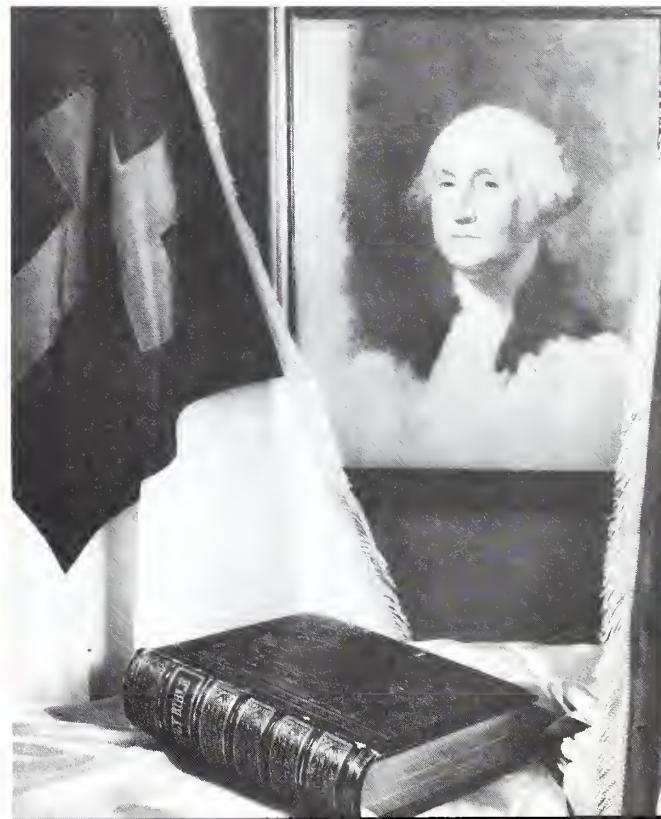
What a legacy! What a challenge to Christians! Unfortunately, we wallow in self-pity and frustration when the only status we attain is that of an unsung hero. But God knows! And when the desert becomes but a barren wasteland, "God will liberally supply . . . every need" (1 Corinthians 4:19, Amplified). That includes the need for recognition.

And yet, perhaps you will also be placed in the tomb of the unknown soldier.

"Here rests in honored glory . . . [a Christian soldier] known but to God."

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THAT LEAVES
ONLY A MERE
5 PERCENT WHO
REMAIN IN THE
LIMELIGHT.

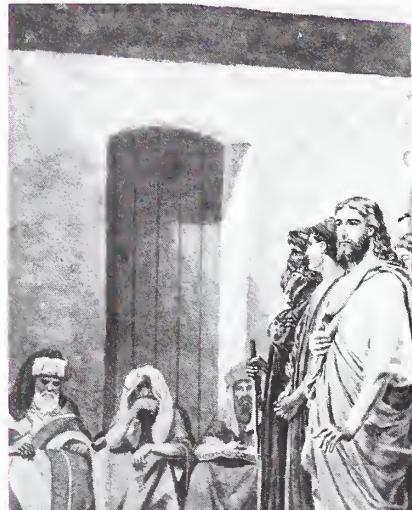


It is important to notice that Jesus preached the Word to them. The original language does not use the word that means "to teach" in this scripture, but it uses a specific word that means "to proclaim." Many responsibilities are placed upon our shoulders in today's world. We are to empathize with the sick, to attend to church business, to en-

courage the discouraged, to keep a watchful eye for the widows and the orphans. But far above any other responsibility, we are to proclaim the Word of God. The Word is indeed "a lamp unto . . . [our] feet, and a light unto . . . [our] path" (Psalm 119: 105). The eternal freshness of the Word provides the inspiration that we need. And without it we would soon become

Messengers of H

by Eddie Stone



Paul M. Schrock Photo

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H. Armstrong Robert

lost in the darkness of confusion. Jesus preached the Word. And so must we, as youth in today's world; for we are His witnesses.

Elsewhere in the town where Jesus preached there lay a man who was totally paralyzed. He could not walk. He could not use his arms. He had difficulty talking. But this man's greatest illness was not physical. His greatest problem

heat of the day, carried a full-grown man all the way through the city of Capernaum.

They were concerned and willing, and they were also daring. They dared to do the difficult when they carried their friend up to the roof. They dared to do the unorthodox when they tore up the roof and interrupted the Lord.

Jesus was preaching. Suddenly, He was distracted and a man was lowered down to His very feet. The Bible says that "When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee" (Mark 2:5).

When Jesus saw *their* faith! Just as Abraham's intercession delivered Lot, just as Paul's presence on the ship resulted in the safety of all the crew members, so was this man delivered by the faith of others. Faith is a mountain mover. It "is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Messengers of hope are those people who dare to move mountains for others.

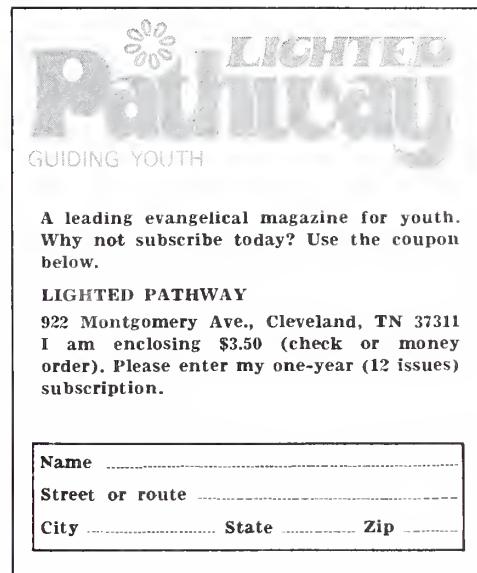
It was quite common for Jesus to perform a healing and then to comment on faith and sin. Here, Jesus ignores the physical problem and goes immediately to the spiritual need. Unlike the Jews, Jesus did not associate sickness directly with sin. Jesus, being the Son of God, went right to the root of the problem and forgave the man of his sin. He treated the cause and then the symptom. Jesus knows the need. Then Jesus said, "Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house" (Mark 2:11). Isn't it wonderful that Jesus knows how to deal with our problems.

Needless to say, we are not divine. We cannot save. But we can all be messengers of

was sin and guilt. The Jews at this time argued that if a man were suffering, he must have sinned. In fact, that is the argument that Job's friends produced. To the Jews, a sick man was a man with whom God was angry. Therefore, this man not only had to deal with his physical disorders, but with social humiliation and a haunting fear of a personal war with God as well.

But the man had something else—something that few men have. He had four faithful friends. These were not four passing strangers who thought they would do their good deed for the day. These were probably the men who helped care for him daily. These men were concerned about the sick. And on this day they came as messengers of hope. They knew Jesus was in town—Jesus who healed the blind, Jesus who healed the leper, and Jesus who cast out demons. On this day they came with words of hope.

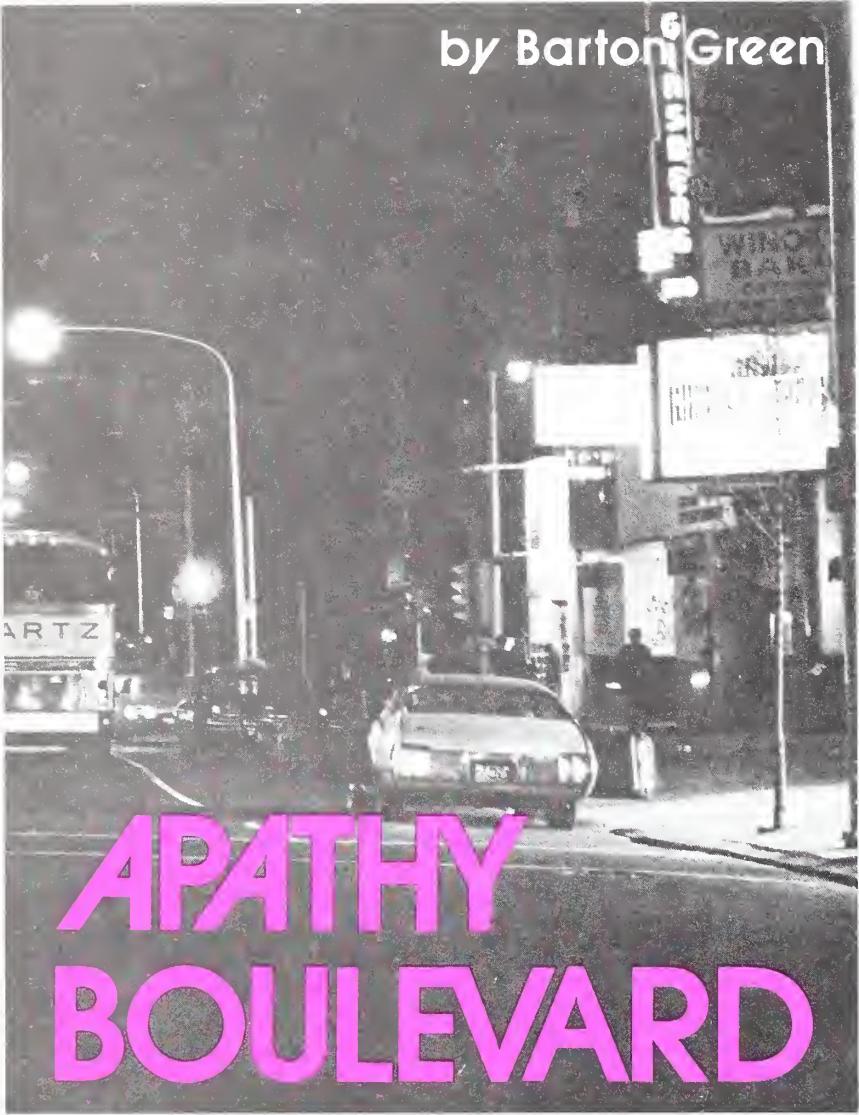
These messengers of hope were not only concerned enough to tell about Jesus, but they were willing to help him get to Jesus. They had works. The four of them together, in the



The image shows the front cover of the magazine "LIGHTED PATHWAY". The title is prominently displayed in large, stylized letters. Below the title, the subtitle "GUIDING YOUTH" is written. A small paragraph below the subtitle reads: "A leading evangelical magazine for youth. Why not subscribe today? Use the coupon below." At the bottom of the cover is a rectangular form for a subscription, with fields for Name, Street or route, City, State, and Zip.

hope. We can be concerned about the sick, both spiritually and physically. We can be willing to do something to affect the lives of others. And we can be daring enough to find a way to bring them to the feet of Jesus, if we will only try and will trust the leading of His Spirit.

We live in a world without hope. Like the four men, we are powerless to correct the basic need. We cannot force a child's temperature down. We cannot lessen the horror of cancer or relieve the pain of a bad heart. But like the four men, we can strain every fiber of faith to overcome the obstacles that stand between us and Jesus. For no "tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword . . . shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35, 39). We must bring men and women to the feet of Jesus! We find hope in Him, and that hope is everlasting life. One day He will wipe away every tear. Because He lives, we too shall live. And it is this knowledge that makes us messengers of hope. 



by Barton Green

Pulling his coat tightly around him to protect himself from the cold night air, Mr. Mitchell thought, *What a night for the taxis to be on strike and my wife to have the car.* He knew his walk home from work was going to be a long one unless he could hitch a ride. But it was improbable that a total stranger would pick him up.

There were no new buildings in this old section of town, so the old storefronts looked the same as they had when he was a boy. The only change noticeable was

the visible decay and lack of concern he felt around him.

Engrossed in his thoughts, Mr. Mitchell failed to notice a rise in the pavement, and in one quick, confusing blur, he tripped and fell with a painful groan. As he sat there on the damp pavement, a harsh reality began to bite its way through the cold; not less than five feet away from him traffic sped by. No one slowed down to help; few even acknowledged his presence there. The ones who did would only point and stare as they drove over the bridge.

Though in pain, he realized, *No one really cares. How self-centered people are. I could be lying here dying, and they would just drive on past—pointing and staring, going their own way, not knowing or caring that they passed a dying man.*

As the pain ebbed slowly, Mitchell grasped the bridge railing, struggling to pull himself up. Testing his leg with his weight, he realized he could make it across the bridge on his own.

Halfway across the bridge, Mitchell spotted a man leaning against a streetlight. *Maybe if I can make it up to where he is, he'll help me the rest of the way.* As he drew closer, he saw that the man was reading intently.

Approaching him, he said, "Hi, what is that you're reading?"

Startled, the man jumped and quickly stuffed the piece of paper in his pocket. "Oh, nothing much!" he nervously replied.

Leaning against the railing, Mitchell held out his hand. "My name is Mitchell, Sam Mitchell. What's yours?"

The man looked at him for a moment in amazement, then shyly put out his hand, "Putnam, Will Putnam."

"Nice to meet you, Will. What



BILL McMURRY Photo

are you doing here this time of night?"

"Just taking a walk."

"You know, I was enjoying my walk home from work, too, until I missed a step a little ways back. I hurt my ankle; sprained it, I guess. It looks like it has started to swell, doesn't it?"

Looking over at Putnam, Mitchell noticed that he was staring out over the water. Deciding that he was too busy with his own problems, Mitchell bent down to rub his foot. As he realized he was an hour late getting home, he resumed his walk across the bridge.

As Mitchell was leaving, Putnam broke the silence between the two. "It sure is a long way down," he said, looking out over the edge.

Puzzled, Mitchell stopped and replied, "Yes, you're right. It is a long way down."

Putnam, looking troubled, spoke loudly above the traffic. "What did you say your name was?"

"Mitchell, Sam Mitchell."

"You married, Mitchell?"

"Yes; I have three children—two boys and a girl," he replied proudly.

Still facing the river, Putnam calmly asked, "You like your family?"

Baffled, Mitchell answered, "Sure, it's my family. Of course I like them; as a matter of fact, I love them!"

"But do you care about them?" Putnam interrupted with a solemn look.

Mitchell didn't know what to say. So they stood there, looking out over the water in silence.

After a while, Putnam took out the crumpled piece of paper he had hidden so quickly before. Looking at it, his voice broke as he said, "My baby brother, Joey, and Papa is all the family I have. After Momma died, Papa didn't seem to care for anything.

**How can people stand by
and watch the horror
that takes place
right under their noses?**

Papa let me and Joey do whatever we wanted. No matter what we did, Papa didn't care.

"One night Joey and some friends broke into a bakery and stole some money. The police caught them and sent them all to jail, all but little Joey. Because he was a minor, they sent him back to Papa. Papa didn't punish Joey at all. . . . One day they found little Joey in an alley. They say he stole some money from a gang uptown. Papa never punished Joey . . . but I guess that gang did."

"Where is Joey now?"

Putnam pointed down the river to the far bank.

"Riverview Cemetery?"

Putnam nodded his head in agreement. "I come up here when I don't feel like being with anybody, and I talk to Joey."

Mitchell, thinking this was Putnam's way of saying good-bye, started to leave again. Putnam, turning toward him and holding the piece of paper, asked, "Would you like to read something Joey wrote?"

Mitchell began to wonder how to respectfully decline. *What am I going to do? My family is probably wondering where I am, and this cold air is making my leg ache terribly. I really don't want to hear his problems.*

Then suddenly, the cars that passed him by earlier came into mind, and he thought, *Here I am, acting like those onlookers who passed me by. I don't want to be known as an onlooker or a passer-by.*

Putting out his hand, he smiled and said, "Sure, Putnam, I'll read it."

Putnam's eyes widened as he said, "It's a poem. It's the only

thing Joey was good at, but I don't understand it. Joey never did make much sense. Maybe you can figure it out."

Taking the paper, Mitchell cleared his throat and began to read:

Broken World
By Joey Putnam

What fools we've been, that walk up and down the street.

Pass by and not help or bother to meet anyone;
We care for only one.
What fools we've been.

When he finished reading, Putnam looked at him, puzzled, and said, "Can you make any sense out of it, Mitchell?"

Calmly, Mitchell handed the crumpled paper back to Putnam. Facing the river (and rubbing his aching leg) he answered, "Yes, Putnam, it makes sense. The boy made a lot of sense." ☺

A Devaney, Inc. Photo





by Dr. Samuel
D. Adkerson

THE DEVIL'S GOSPEL

Has anyone ever told you something that wasn't true—a falsehood? a lie? It is quite irritating to accept a statement as truth, only to discover later that it was a lie. The devil constantly bombards man with lies and half-truths, oftentimes coaxing him into accepting them as truth.

In the Garden of Eden, the serpent convinced Eve that she would not die (Genesis 3:4) if she partook of the forbidden fruit. Too late she discovered she had been deceived. Many young people are being deceived in a similar manner by the devil's gospel.

This gospel of falsehoods and deception has existed from the beginning. Jesus said, "He [the devil] was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth . . . he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

The devil's gospel causes man to scoff at hell. To believe there is no hell serves as a temporary solace to a seared conscience. The enemy of man's soul advocates this untruth, causing millions to accept it as gospel.

The devil's gospel causes man to mock the truth of God's

justice. Man says, "God is love; and He wouldn't send a soul to hell to be damned forever." God is love; but He is also just, commanding all men everywhere to repent of their sins. He does not send anyone to hell; but He gives man the option—"except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

The devil's gospel comforts the wicked and causes him to continue in sin. Many young people have accepted the half-truth that God's judgment is not sure, because it is not immediate. Solomon declares, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil" (Ecclesiastes 8:11). Paul reacts to this by exclaiming, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

Whereas, the gospel of Christ leads man in keeping God's law and causes him to enjoy God's presence, the devil's gospel advocates the breaking of God's law, through rebellion, and causes man to feel uncomfortable in the presence of deity. You will recall that Adam and Eve hid themselves in

the Garden of Eden after they transgressed God's law. They attempted to escape the presence of God.

Men are still trying to hide from God. Vainly he covers his evil deeds with the cloaks of darkness and self-righteousness. "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6). One may run from God and the convicting power of the Holy Ghost; but he cannot hide from God. One day man will cry for the rocks and mountains to fall upon him to hide him from the face of God and from the wrath of the Lamb (Revelation 6:15-17).

The devil's gospel leads to a miserable end. In this life man may find momentary happiness in his sinful pursuits and pleasures; but one day he must stand before God and give an account for his wayward living. As a sinner, he will appear before the Great White Throne (Revelation 20:11-15) naked, with no cloak of darkness or half-truth to cover him. But worst of all, the sinner will be cast out, forever separated from the presence of God. The lake of fire will become his eternal home. Is this what you want for your life?

There is a better way! Renounce the devil's gospel and accept the true gospel—the gospel of Jesus Christ. ☩



MAKE YOUR HOUSE A HOME

"While... (I) was busy here and there, he was gone."

It is possible to be most unthoughtful behind the closed doors of our home. Someone has said that from those whom we love most we take the most undue privileges.

The Christian youth is obligated to spend time with his family. The members of the family are sometimes lost from the union because they have been ignored. We should not have to say with the Old Testament prophet: "While . . . (I) was busy here and there, he was gone." What have we profited if we gain others and lose our family!

Men have spoken fondly of their homes down through the years. Edgar Guest said: "It takes a heap o' livin' in a house t' make it a home," while Foss wrote: "Let me live in my house by the side of the road where the race of men go by."

The ancient Spanish novelist Cervantes knew the greatness of the home when he said: "You are a king by your own fireside, as much as the monarch in his palace." Jesus admonished the man of Gadara to go home to his friends (Mark 5:19), and Paul told us to show piety at home (1 Timothy 5:4).

The Christian youth should participate in family devotions. The home without a family altar is built on a shaky foundation. A pastor asked a parishioner if she had a family altar. The lady,

obviously embarrassed, answered, "No, we just bought new furniture and can't afford one at present."

I speak of the family altar where the television is turned off, God's Word is read, and the family prays. Such occasions have been the most sacred of any in my home. The family altar is imperative! A preacher who traveled a great deal said, "More than once my little girl has knelt in the car while we sped down the highway, used the back seat as an altar, and prayed before retiring on that back seat."

The cliche is worn, but still true: "The family that prays together, stays together." Necessary attributes of a happy home are prayer and Bible reading. Tolstoy wrote: "All happy families resemble each other; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own fashion."

Evil forces are striving to break down the home, television probably being the most powerful. This electronic box in our living room foments violence, murder, loose morals and dishonor of parents. This innocent-appearing entertainment center sometimes indoctrinates young people in the ways of evil much faster than they are able to learn the precepts of righteousness.

Furthermore, the day has come when our home is no



longer safe from the invader. Recently a thief entered a home, the family awoke, the rogue pulled a pistol and shot both the father and mother while the children looked on.

In spite of the multiple threats to the home it can stay together; it can be godly; it can be happy if every member of the household will strive individually to make it so. It does "take a heap o' livin' in a house t' make it a home."



Church of God 57th General Assembly

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**CHURCH OF GOD YOUTH
57th GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



REGISTRATION CENTERS

Muehlebach Hotel—Monday
August 31, 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

Civic Auditorium—Teen Talent Competition—Tuesday through Saturday

YOUTH AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

Pastors Seminar—"Youth Crisis Intervention"
District Directors Banquet
Music Festival

FRIDAY

Teen Talent
Action Rallies (2)—Children
Youth Ice Cream Festival
State Youth Board
Members Luncheon

TUESDAY

Teen Talent Competition—Art, Bible, Music
Action Rallies—Peacemakers, Children

SATURDAY

Action Rallies (2)—Children
Teachers Luncheon
Teen Talent Awards Festival

WEDNESDAY

Teen Talent
International Youth Celebration
Action Rallies (2)—Children
Young Adult Fellowship

SUNDAY

Superintendents Breakfast
World Missions Emphasis
Youth Night Service

THURSDAY

Teen Talent
Action Rallies (2)—Children
State Directors Fellowship

MONDAY

State Directors Training Session

KICKER Pathway

GUIDING YOUTH

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GUIDING YOUTH

August, 1978

Volume 49, Number 8

CONTENTS

- 2** A Tract Ministry
By Delores Elaine Bias
- 6** Family Day at King's Dominion
By Lynn Stone
- 8** No Man Cared for My Soul
By Renee Tiffin
- 10** A Gift of Life
By John Winter
- 12** I Want to Work for God?
By Ronald Duprau
- 13** The Song
By Dan Stone
- 14** Teen Talent Creative Writing—First Place State Winners
- 16** Peacemakers Action News and Views
By Lucille Walker
- 18** Pathway Pointers
- 20** Dear Cari
By Gloria Chisholm
- 22** Keynotes
By Mary S. Morris
- 23** Letters Add to Life's Zest
By Raymond M. Veh
- 24** Teen Talent Creative Writing 1978
- 25** Give Me the Works
By Gloria Gaither
- 26** Call of the Master
By J. Stephen Conn
- 27** Desk of the Editor

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MEMBER epda EVANGELICAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

Jeff found himself looking with admiration at the young couple at the table in the corner of the restaurant. He liked to eat lunch at this place. The food was delicious, the prices reasonable, and the service quick. Also, it was on a main highway, and being a people-watcher, he had something interesting to do while eating.

Just looking around today gave him ideas for possible stories. As a part-time, free-lance writer, he found no lack of plots or characters when he ate out. Right now, for instance, there was quite an assortment of story characters in this room.

At the next table was an elderly man with the air of a retired schoolteacher. He was reading a scholarly tome as he ate his lunch. In the booths by the front windows were a young couple whose unseasonable tan and quiet conversation inferred they might be returning from a honeymoon, and a middle-aged couple whose dark attire and glum faces made him think they might be returning from a funeral.

Sitting at the counter were several truckers wearing boots, their wallets secured to their jeans with chains, and their conversation liberally sprinkled with comments about CB's road conditions, and their destinations.

But it was the couple in the corner that commanded Jeff's attention. The fellow was slim and good-looking but had a worried expression on his face. His wife was cooing at the tiny infant in her arms with a Madonna-like expression. But their clothes were rumpled, and they looked like they had traveled a long distance.

A Tract Ministry

by Delores Elaine Bius



PHOTO BY ROBERT WILSON FOR THE CHURCH OF GOD YOUTH PUBLICATIONS

Still, they looked like such a loving little family.

When they had finished their meal of sandwiches and soft drinks, the fellow began searching through his pockets for money to pay his bill, money he evidently thought he had.

Frowning, he murmured to his wife and she handed him the baby and began rummaging through her handbag. Eyes wide and brow furrowed, she held her palms out, empty, and then took the baby back.

(CONTINUED) ➞





Jeff took a ten-dollar bill out of his wallet, rose, and walked quickly over to the corner table. "That's a beautiful baby you have there. Congratulations!" He shook the father's hand and returned to his own table.

The young man looked down at the ten-dollar bill and tract in his hand with awe. The worried expression in his eyes disappeared. His wife's smile lit up her piquant face. Her husband put the tract in his pocket and went to pay their bill. He walked with his head held high, and Jeff knew he had given him not just cash, but had also restored his self-confidence and pride.

Later, when the waitress brought Jeff his bill, she remarked, "Say, fellow, I saw what you did. That was pretty nice of you. You're the one who leaves tracts with the tips, aren't you?"

When he nodded, she continued, "Well, I've been a waitress for ten years now. I've had people leave me tracts with tips and some *instead* of tips. You're the first person I've ever seen do something like that, though—helping the young couple out with cash. I hope the fellow reads the tract and doesn't throw it away like I've done in the past. And if you leave me one today, I promise to read it this time."

On his way back to work, Jeff pondered over the waitress' remarks. He prayed for both her and the young couple. And he began to look for ways he could pass out tracts in an effective manner such as that. He couldn't afford to give away money with each tract; but maybe a smile or a kind word would lead the person to read it, not just throw it away.



Jim Price Photo

When he got off work that afternoon, he recalled that his wife had asked him to stop at the market for bread and milk. While in the store, he also picked up a box of animal cookies for his son and a container of his wife's favorite strawberry yogurt.

In the parking lot he saw an elderly lady having trouble loading several bulky sacks of groceries in her car. "Let me help you," Jeff offered and quickly put them in the car for her, slipping a tract in one. Then he added, "I'll take your cart back for you."

Back on the main road, Jeff spotted a teenager at the intersection selling bouquets for \$1.00. When he stopped for the light, he beckoned to the boy and purchased a bunch of carnations. Jeff gave

him the dollar and then said, "This is for you," and handed him a tract.

Little Timmy was delighted with the cookies and Brenda with the yogurt, but the bouquet earned him an extra kiss and hug.

Over supper, he remarked, "Ever since Pastor Carroll's sermon about giving out tracts, I've been challenged to do so, only in different ways. Today I had several opportunities." He proceeded to share his experience with Brenda.

After they had eaten, Jeff was reading to Timmy while Brenda washed dishes. A knock on the door turned out to be a young boy selling candy for his school to earn money for uniforms for the basketball team. Buying a box, Jeff said, "Would you do me a favor and read this little leaflet later?"

"I sure will. Thank you, sir," the boy responded.

That night Jeff prayed about the five tracts he had given out that day, praying that the Holy Spirit would use their message to win souls. He also made a mental note to write an article on how to use tracts in reaching the unsaved.

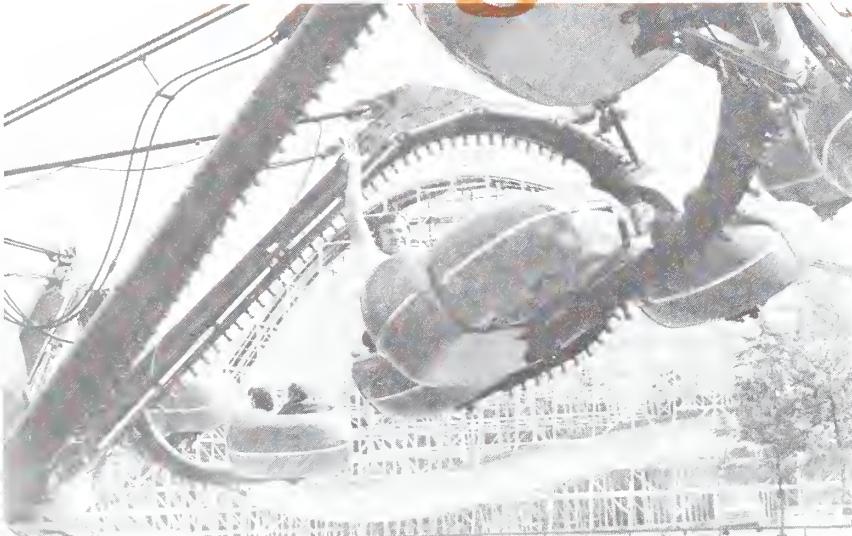
That's what Christian writing is all about, anyway, he reminded himself. It was not the checks in payment for stories and articles. Rather it was the knowledge that he was sharing with others lessons he had learned from the Lord! ☩



Jim Price Photo

**MARYLAND-VIRGINIA
CHURCH OF GOD**

Family Day at King's Dominion



Lynn Stone is State Youth and Christian Education Director of Virginia.

Over 6,000 Church of God people gathered at King's Dominion on Saturday, May 6, to enjoy the Maryland-Virginia Church of God Family Day. The official count of those who purchased the special discount Church of God entrance tickets was 3,467 from Maryland and 2,690 from Virginia, making a grand total of 6,157.

The theme park, which is located a few miles north of Richmond, Virginia, proved to be an ideal setting for this first tri-state family emphasis jointly sponsored by the Churches

of God in Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia. There are very few places today where entire families can participate in a day of fun activities without having to endure some of the filthy conditions of a sin-sick society.

Parents found it very exciting to be able to watch their children having a truly great time of enjoyment without having to worry about smutty conversations, half-drunken bums, drug peddlers, filthy books and pictures, and other types of offscourings of the world which are prevalent in so many places that families



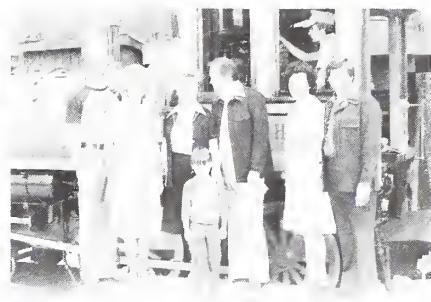
by Lynn Stone



will go to in order to relax a while with their children.

The day was packed full with fun, worship, fellowship . . . with laughing children, joyful teens, approving parents, smiling grandpas and grandmas . . . with cotton candy, popcorn, frozen bananas, hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream . . . with sore feet, aching muscles, tired jaws, weary bones. Yet, there was also time for hallelujahs and praises from the worship service. And they were louder, and more meaningful, and more intense than the yells and screams from the Rebel Yell, the theme park's twin roller coaster.

The friendly spirit was contagious. Even though we only had three thousand of the colorful yellow and red Family Day badges, it seemed that everywhere you looked there was



The day was packed full with fun, worship, fellowship . . . with laughing children, joyful teens . . .

a smiling face to match the special message which the badges proclaimed, "KING'S DOMAIN." A worker for King's Dominion said, "I've never seen so many people smiling and laughing so much while waiting in line."

The spirit had its roots in the worship service which was held at the large pavilion in conjunction with the noon meal. Even while people were still eating and moving around, the Spirit of the Lord was present as various groups from Maryland and Virginia worshiped God in song. Since such a large response had not been anticipated, the public address system was not nearly adequate for the number of people present. Nevertheless, those who were able to be seated in the area designated for the service were especially blessed.

The highlight of the worship service was the message by the Reverend Lamar Vest, assistant general director of youth and Christian education. The sermon, entitled "The Lord of the Family," was especially appropriate on a day that was set aside for family emphasis.

As the service concluded with the singing of the chorus, "Jesus Be the Lord of All," the sweetness of God's Spirit touched the hearts of both young and old alike. Such a touch is what is needed to make sons and daughters be better

children, moms and dads be better parents, and grandmothers and grandfathers be better examples.

Even though King's Dominion and other such parks have special days set aside for different groups, such as Boy Scouts, high school classes, and other organizations, there had never been a day quite like this one. In fact, when the day was first being planned, no one even dreamed that the response would be quite like it was. (The original attendance goal was one thousand.)

A great part of the success of the day is due to the cooperative work of the two State Boards of Youth and Christian Education. Even though they could not find a single precedent of the Church of God from two different state offices entering into such a joint effort, the Youth Departments from both states felt that this would make the day far more effective than a single state program.

The initial tentative plans were drawn up by Bob Frazier (youth director of Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia) and Lynn Stone (youth director of Virginia) as they worked closely with Ron Martin and Ed Kuhlmann, representatives of King's Dominion. Each director then met with their respective state youth boards for

further plans and discussion. Finally, both boards met with the park's representatives at King's Dominion in order to draft the final policy guidelines.

Over 150 churches from Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, and Virginia participated in the Family Day, with visitors coming also from North Carolina, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. The Evangel Temple Church in Baltimore had the greatest number in attendance, with 287. The Tip Top Church from the southwest corner of Virginia came the greatest distance, traveling over 600 miles round trip.

Yet, above it all, the refrains of "Jesus Be the Lord of All" can still be heard, along with the convincing truth of a thousand voices repeating, "I love Jesus." The memory of happy but tear-stained faces lingers. The comfort of the message, "He is Lord of the Family" and the sweetness of a heavenly Presence smiling approval on Family Day remain in the minds and hearts of those who were present.

We thank God for giving to us a beautiful day, with a good mixture of sunshine and breezes, neither too hot nor too cold. It was a perfect match for the thousands of smiling faces of Church of God people who turned King's Dominion into the King's Domain for a day.

Kevin is a very special person to me. When his teacher first introduced me to him as his tutor, I saw him as a very nice looking fifteen-year-old boy. He had brown hair, a dark complexion, big brown eyes, and a shy smile. I remember asking myself, *I wonder what he is doing here at this school with the rest of these kids. He doesn't look mentally retarded to me.* But Kevin really was mentally retarded, and I had volunteered to tutor him two days a week.

On that first visit, the teacher began to tell me a little bit about Kevin. She asked me if I had ever heard of the "terrible twos" stage." When I told her that I had, she went on to explain, "Well, Kevin is in this stage. He is constantly asking questions like, 'How does it rain?'" The teacher then told me that the sub-

ject she wanted me to tutor Kevin in was math. After meeting Kevin and having that small conference with his teacher, I headed back to my dorm room with a nice, warm feeling in my heart. I was anxious to start tutoring, and I felt that I could help Kevin and that he would learn from me. I did not know that it would be Kevin who would help me and that I would be the one learning from him.

Kevin did extremely well in adding together one-digit numbers, but I just could not get him to understand the concept:

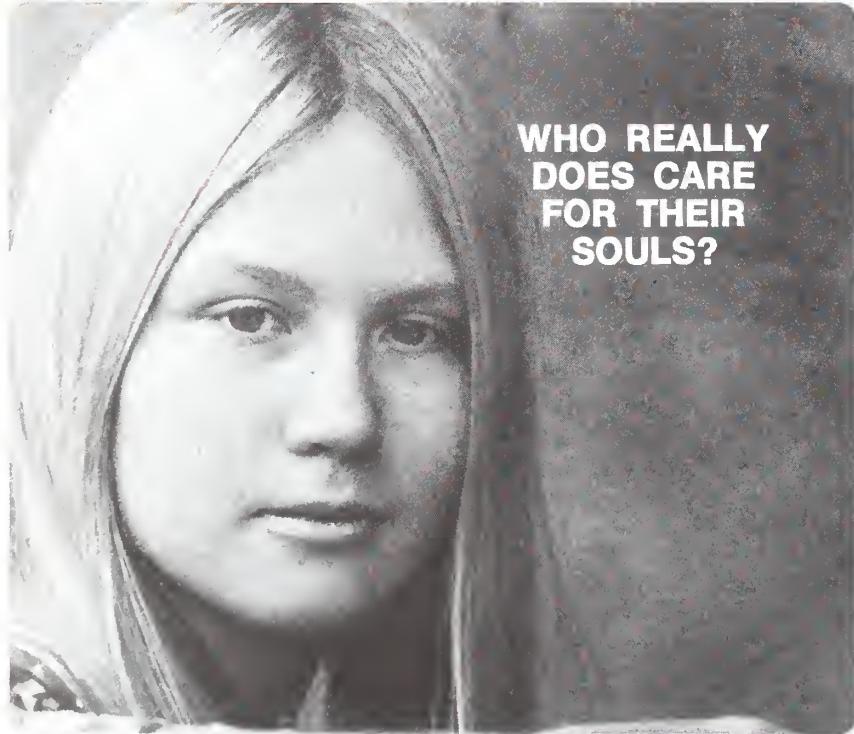
$4 + \underline{\quad} = 9$. I would ask Kevin, "Four blocks plus how many blocks equal nine blocks?" Kevin would answer, "Thirteen." "No, Kevin," I would say. "Now look. We have four blocks here and nine blocks here. Four blocks plus how many more blocks would give us nine blocks?" Again Kevin

would reply, "Thirteen." For three days I constantly worked with him on this concept and asked him, "Four blocks plus how many blocks give us nine blocks?" For three days Kevin answered, "Thirteen." One day I said, "O.K., Kevin. We have four blocks in this pile and nine blocks in this pile. How many blocks do we have to add to this pile so that we have the same number of blocks in both piles?" Kevin thought a little bit and finally replied, "Five." All of the toil Kevin and I had been through in those three days of tutoring suddenly seemed worth it—to him and to me—because now, Kevin understood.

Just like his teacher warned me, Kevin did ask me an endless number of questions. When Kevin would ask me, "How does it rain?" I could not satisfy him with the same answer that

NO MAN CARE

by Renee Tiffin



Sun Rise Photo



Alan Cliburn Photo

my kindergarteners in children's church would have given me if I had asked them that question. I could not tell him that God made the clouds in a special way to give us rain, but I would have to give him a simple, scientific answer, or say, "Kevin, I don't know." In another question, Kevin innocently asked me

if he sounded like a man. After I got over the surprise of his asking a question like that, I said, "Well, Kevin . . . yes, you do." He then asked, "How can I sound like a man if I'm only a boy?" "Well, Kevin," I went on to explain, "since you're changing into a young man, your voice is changing into a young man's voice." "But how does it do that?" he insisted. Again I found it very frustrating not being able to tell him that God made him in such a special way so that when he grew, different parts of his body inside of him grew, which made his voice sound lower. Instead, I reminded myself that I was in school and not in church, so I again resolved to the answer, "Kevin, I don't know."

Kevin was only the beginning of my working with handicapped children. Since my major in

watched him as he pushed himself up and down the hall with his hands. I have spoken to, signed to, and gestured to little three-year-old deaf children in every way I could to get them to understand what I was trying to say, only to have them look up at me sweetly and never understand what I meant. It seems that I have done all I could to help these children.



Rohn Engh Photo

ments like these. I thought again about Kevin and his problem in math and about how it might have been if I had never offered my time to help him. It may have been a long time before he would have been able to comprehend that concept, or, without having the individual instruction he received from me, he might never have understood. I realized that working with handicapped people in a church situation would take more time and inconvenience. But I also realized how wonderful it would be for these people to have God's love as the answer to their questions and how easy it would be for them to understand that Jesus died on the cross for their sins. It would be well worth the toil —just like it was when Kevin finally understood that concept in math.

FOR MY SOUL

college is deaf education, I work as a volunteer with deaf children in a school for children with all kinds of handicaps. I have seen little girls with twisted legs pushing other little girls in their wheelchairs. I have watched a little five-year-old boy with cerebral palsy try to walk with his crutch, and at the same time struggle to push his cerebral palsied twin brother in a wheelchair. I have zipped up coats of mentally retarded children who did not have the coordination to do it themselves. I have met a blind boy at his bus, led him to the elevator, and left him in the hall to find the rest of the way to his classroom by himself. I have seen a little boy wearing a cast from his toes to his hips being laid on his stomach on a small board with wheels on the bottom. Then I

Like the doctors, therapists, psychologists, and teachers of these handicapped children, I, too, have tried to help these children physically, mentally, and educationally. But one day I heard an evangelist read Psalm 142:4, and the verse had a different meaning to me. The evangelist read, "I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul." I read that verse again and thought more about the last part—"no man cared for my soul." Then I thought, *If as Christians, we are supposed to be following in Christ's footsteps, why aren't we doing something to help these handicapped people? If anyone needs to know that God loves them and cares about them, it is the people who have impair-*

If you look beyond the battered brains and broken bodies, you will find souls exactly like yours and mine. I feel that many times handicapped people must be crying out as David did, "No man cares for my soul." But I do not only want to say, "I care"—I want to show it. I know I will never be able to heal them like Jesus did, but I can lead them to that same Man who is preparing a home in heaven for them, too. 

Renee's article won first place in the Articles and Essays Division of the Teen Talent Creative Writing 1978.



DO YOU MIND IF WE BOTH PRAY AND
ASK FOR GOD'S PROTECTION BEFORE WE HIKING?

A Gift of LIFE

by John Winter



John Engh photo

On a warm August morning, Bill rolled out of his sleeping bag and inhaled all the fresh mountain air his lungs could hold. Slowly exhaling, he gazed into the crystal blue sky above and listened to a dove calling from an oak tree which grew along the bank of a nearby stream. On the opposite side of the stream from where he stood, Bill scanned a cliff wall which rose to a height of one hundred

feet above the stream for a night hawk he had listened to during the early morning dawn.

After several minutes of looking, Bill was satisfied that the hawk was not nesting in that area and walked over to the ashes of the previous night's fire.

He was able to find a few coals left burning and from there started building a fire. After the fire was going, he started cooking some bacon, eggs, and coffee for breakfast.

When the bacon was almost done, Bill heard a stirring off to his side. Turning his head, he saw his brother, Jim, debating whether or not he should get up and face the day.

Chuckling at the sight of his brother trying to pull himself out of his sleeping bag, still half asleep, Bill said, "It's about time you got up. Breakfast is almost ready."

Jim only mumbled a reply as he slowly poured himself a cup of coffee.

Bill and Jim had rappelled down the face of the cliff the day before on ropes and had hauled down the rope after them. They had planned for Bill to take the lead and climb first, setting any safety aids as they were needed. When he reached the top, he was to secure one end of the rope to an anchor and throw the rest of the rope down to Jim, who would tie the rope to himself and climb up, removing whatever aids Bill had set in the rocks as he went up.

After they had finished their breakfast, Bill and Jim doused their fire and began loading their gear into the backpacks. They had brought only the few necessities which they needed.

After they had finished loading their packs, they checked their rope to make sure it had not been damaged by the rappel. Any climber knows that many times his life will depend on his rope.

Within half an hour, they had finished their equipment checks, had crossed the stream, and stood at the base of the cliff ready to climb.

Bill turned to Jim and asked, "Do you mind if we both pray and ask for God's protection before we climb?"

"Yes, I mind," Jim replied. "You know I don't go for all that religious stuff."

"You must believe some of it," Bill said, "or you wouldn't be coming to church on such a regular basis."

"Look," Jim returned in a voice that startled Bill, "don't

give me that holier-than-thou attitude. I don't care if you are the youth director. Now, get moving! I don't want to stay down here all day."

"I'm sorry I upset you," Bill said apologizing.

Bill said a prayer by himself, asking God to protect both him and his brother as they climbed. He then started his climb.

The first thirty feet of the climb were fairly easy, and Bill had to set no safety aids.

When he reached a height of forty feet, Bill set an aid and passed his rope through it. This would act as an anchor if he should happen to fall, and Jim could secure the rope at the bottom of the cliff to stop his fall.

The rock became harder and harder to climb as he went up. At approximately seventy feet, Bill tested his weight on a couple of rocks that appeared secure, but they weren't. The rocks gave way from the wall and Bill started falling. His last safety aid was placed ten feet below him so he would fall twenty feet before he would stop.

Jim secured the rope as soon as he saw Bill start coming away from the rock and breathed a sigh of relief as soon as he saw Bill stop falling after the twenty foot fall. His relief soon turned to horror as he helplessly watched his brother fall again. The rope had snapped while Bill had tried to grasp the rock.

Jim tried to shut reality out of his mind as he saw Bill glance off of a protruding rock on the wall and land draped

over a large boulder resting on the valley floor.

Tears welled up in Jim's eyes as he frantically climbed the boulder to his brother, who lay motionless and bleeding. Jim tried desperately to find a pulse in Bill's arm and could see no sign of life.

Taking his brother's hand, Jim sank back to his knees and looked into the sky. Crying out in a sob-laden voice, he said, "God, all my life I've been taught that You really exist. Bill believed in You. And now, by all physical means, I know he's dead. But, he has a smile on his face. Now I fully understand that You gave him that peace. God, right now I could use the comfort Bill had. Please, God, give me something that will help me out of my darkness."

Jim, still clutching Bill's hand, raised his other hand toward heaven and thanked God for what the loss of his brother had done to him.

Softly, but surely, Jim could feel it—an extremely slight pressure on his hand which held Bill's. Looking down to Bill's face with an ecstatic joy, Jim saw Bill's eyes open only a very little and heard him utter through his pain, "Thank God, you're finally home."

That day Jim received two precious gifts. One was the return of his brother, and the second was the greatest gift of all—the gift of eternal life. ☩

John's manuscript won first place in the Short Story Division of the Teen Talent Creative Writing 1978.



I WANT TO WORK FOR GOD?

by Ronald Duprau



Ronald's article won first place in the Plays and Skits Division of the Teen Talent Creative Writing 1978.

Characters:

Jack . . . Teen youth leader, age 20-25
Don . . . Assistant youth leader, age 20-25
Brian . . . Loud and boisterous youth, age 14
Shanon . . . Quiet and sincere youth, age 14
Donna . . . A follower, not a leader, age 13
Scott . . . A Christian with a facade, age 15
Dave . . . Quiet and sincere, age 14
Bill . . . A new and eager Christian, age 14
Susan . . . Typical teenager, age 16
Teenage group of 10 to 25 extras

Act one: scene one

Setting: Rowdy youth meeting

JACK: (*Standing*) Quiet. . . . (*still noise*). . . . Quiet! . . . (*still noise*). . . . Shut up! (*Order restored*.) Now, many of you have said that you wanted a job in the church; so after much prayer and consideration, I have chosen some of you for jobs. Don will tell you more about it.

DON: (*Standing*) We have chosen these people for the following jobs. Brian, you are in charge of nursing home visitations.

BRIAN: (*Loudly*) Now wait a minute! I've got better things to do than to go around playing nurse-maid to a bunch of old cronies!

(*Jack stands and takes Brian to the side to talk to him*.)

DON: Bill, you are in charge of witnessing teams.

SCOTT: (*Loudly*) Ha-ha! Bill, you are going to have fun.

DON: Scott is Bill's helper. (*Bill smiles at Scott*.) Donna and Susan are to be the welcoming committee to help the new people make friends and feel welcome.

DONNA: Why do I have to do that? (*indignantly*)

DON: Shanon, you are in charge of cleanup.

MOST KIDS: Ha-ha! You're the maid. (*Others make fun, laugh, jeer*.)

SHANON: O.K.

Act one: scene two

Setting: Outside that night after the meeting, the kids are talking.

BRIAN: Who does he think he is—giving me the nursing home visitations?

DONNA: Yeah, he just comes in and starts giving everyone things to do. (*All the others, except Bill and Shanon, join in, cutting down the leaders*.)

BRIAN: Hey, Bill, what do you think?

BILL: About what?

BRIAN: About having to lead the witnessing team.

BILL: I really like it. (*Brian looks shocked, but quickly retaliates*.)

BRIAN: It figures from a guy like you. (*Turns to Shanon*.) Hey, Shanon, what do you think about being maid?

SHANON: I don't mind. I asked the Lord for a job and He gave it to me.

BRIAN: (*Hatefully*) Have it your way, Miss Goody Two Shoes. Come on you guys. (*Motions to other kids; none come*.) You guys are crazy! Just crazy! (*Exits to left, talking about "those crazy kids."*)

Act two: scene one

Setting: The same youth group about two months later

DON: Will the committees please report?

SCOTT: The witnessing committee is pleased to report that five have been saved and two new members have been added to the church.

DONNA: The welcoming committee is proud to report a 30-percent increase in attendance. (*Brian enters the back door unseen except by Jack*.)

DAVE: (*Very excited*) Nursing home visitations show twenty-three people saved!

BRIAN: Hold on! (*Everyone turns*.) So this is the wise guy who is getting all of the glory I should have got. (*Jack takes Brian to the side, and most of the young people move offstage until just Jack and Brian remain*.)

JACK: (*Speaking to Brian*) Would you like to talk?

BRIAN: All right. Ever since I left here I have been in trouble, so I decided to come back . . . (*starting to cry*). I want to do right, but I just can't! (*Sobbing uncontrollably*)

JACK: (*Puts his arm around Brian's shoulder*) Let's pray . . . Lord, here is one of Your sheep gone astray, returning to the fold. . . . (*Lights fade as they pray*.)

Act two: scene two

Setting: Youth group meeting two weeks later

BRIAN: I'm so glad God gave me a second chance. Last week I saw those old people praising God, and it just thrilled my soul. (*As lights fade, sing or play "Jesus, Use Me."*)

The Song began as a lullaby—virgin mother
to serenely sleeping infant.
A quiet, gentle sound, its soft and soothing tones
spread Hope and Peace—balm
for burning, festering wounds—on a
tired and aching world.

It was a simple song. And like the smiling
summer breeze it stirred a sleeping
Promise, warmed a dying Prayer.
Truth and Beauty were the Song. And silent,
captive hearts were bade to sing—
Freedom's anthem—its living message.

But Dissonance erupted, spewing forth hot and
heartless evil. Darkness engulfed
the glowing Melody, drenched its
flickering purpose. And the music stopped.
Fear—came. Chords—destroyed sweet, radiant harmony,
and the Song was lost. A world was silent.

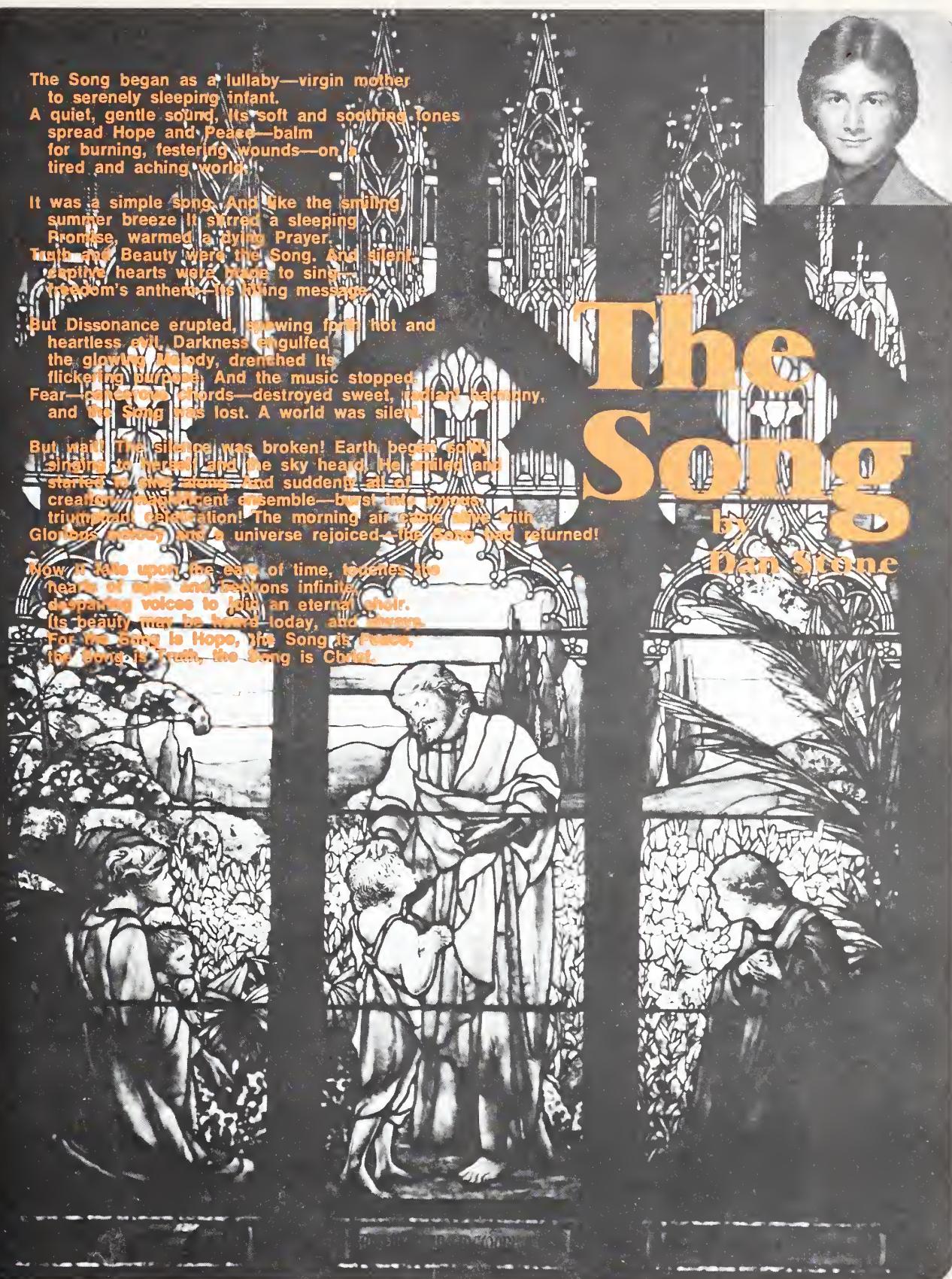
But wait! The silence was broken! Earth began softly
singing to herself and the sky heard. He smiled and
started to sing along. And suddenly all of
creation's magnificent ensemble—burst into joyous
triumphant celebration! The morning air came alive with
Glorious voices, here a universe rejoiced—the Song had returned!

Now it falls upon the ears of time, touches the
hearts of men and beckons infinite
disparting voices to join an eternal choir.
Its beauty may be heard today, and always.
For the Song is Hope, the Song is Peace,
the Song is Truth, the Song is Christ.

The Song

by

Dan Stone



Dan's poem won first place in the Poetry Division of the Teen Talent Creative Writing 1978.

Teen Talent

CREATIVE WRITING

'78

**1st PLACE ST
WINNERS**

We regret that photographs for the following people were not available. We heartily congratulate them for winning first place in the '78 Teen Talent competition. CHARLOTTE BOUNDS (N. California-Nevada), Poetry; TEREASA HILL (Western Canada), Short Story; DELORIS BELL (Florida-Jacksonville), Plays and Skits; CINDY INGRAM (N. Georgia), Poetry; JANET JONES (N. Ohio), Poetry; RENEE DUPRAU (Pennsylvania), Poetry; MONICA COLLINS (Washington), Poetry; JAMIE MEADE (West Virginia), Short Story; PATRICIA TEETERS (West Virginia), Poetry.

P—Poetry, SS—Short Story,
A&E—Articles and Essays, P&S—Plays and Skits



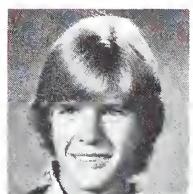
SS—AL
Richard Thomas



P—AL
Audrea Fuller



A&E—AL
Lucretia Gibbs



SS & P—AZ
John Winter



P & A&E—AR
Susan Key



SS—N. Calif.-Nev.
Keith Gmeinder



P—W. Canada
David Manley



SS—Col.-Wyom.
Jacquelyn McManus



A&E—Col.-Wyom.
Donna Ramsey



SS—FL
Guy Glass



P&S—FL
Belinda Ford



P—FL
Kandi Prigden



SS—N. GA
Randal Davidson



A&E—N. GA
Robert Ashley



SS—S. GA
Twyla Daugherty



P—S. GA
Rita Adkins



SS—IL
Angelique Hanner



A&E—IL
Renee Tiffin



P—IL
Julie Lane



SS—IN
Christie Shirel



A&E—IN
Randy Ballard



P—IN
April Dwigans



P—KY
Lisa Walters



A&E & P—LA
Tammy Mulford



P&S—LA
Nora Cagle



P—Maine
Kerry King



SS—MD
Sammy Bozman



P—MD
Jackie Howington



SS—Mich.
Darius Walden



A&E—Mich.
Debbie Grafmiller



P—Mich.
Marla Lewis



SS—Miss.
Debbie May



P&S—Miss.
Tammy Simmons



A&E—Miss.
Steve Hankins



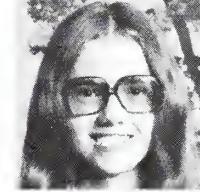
P—Miss.
Deborah Barnett



A&E—Mo.
Wilma Doss



P—Mo.
Rita Eversole



SS—NC
Paula Lammonds



A&E—NC
Michael Beecham



P—NC
Karen Lowery



P&S—NC
Larry Smith



SS—N & S Dak.
Steve Mitchell



P—N & S Dak.
Audrey Weldon



SS—N. OH
Rosemary Hammond



P&S—N. OH
Shari Lynn Veleba



P—S. OH
Judy Close



SS—OK
Barbara Gibson



A&E—OK
Allan Lee Duarte



P—OK
Carolyn Vanderburg



SS—PA
Rebecca Cushman



P&S—PA
Ronald Duprau



SS—SC
Karen Barton



A&E—SC
Tootsie Johnson



P—SC
Alicia Arnold



SS—TN
Bob Fisher



P&S—TN
Teresa Coile



A&E—TN
Lisa Vencion



P—TN
Karen Stone



SS—CA
Cynthia Standifer



A&E—TX
Gina Robertson



P—TX
Larry McQueen



SS—VA
Julie New



A&E & P—VA
Dan Stone



P&S—WV
Darlene Schofield



A&E—WV
Michele Snyder

ACTION

NEWS & VIEWS

by Lucille Walker

KAREN LOWERY, A NATIONAL WINNER

Karen, an eighth grade student at Lincoln Junior High, Bessemer City, North Carolina, wrote an essay, "My American Heritage," and won first place in the local Bessemer City Chapter of American War Mothers Contest. Later it won in district, state, and national levels.

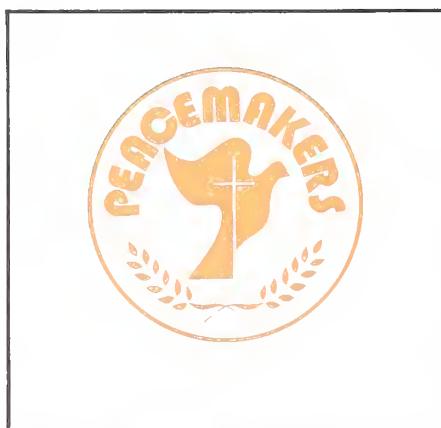
The Reverend Paul Collins, state youth and Christian education director, complimented Karen on her church activities which include her being president of the 8th Street Church of God Peacemakers, singing in the choir, and being active in various church programs and projects.

Among other things, Karen said, "Americans can honor their heritage by living good, useful lives, going to church regularly, taking an active part in government, rearing respectful children, earning an honest day's pay, working hard, letting cleanliness start at home, helping others, and respecting mankind."

PEACEMAKER DIRECTOR IN ZAMBIA, AFRICA

John Mambo of Lusaka, Zambia, wrote the General Department recently about youth work in Africa. He began by expressing appreciation for freedom to preach in his country and requested that we "pray for others that they will in the near future have the same privilege to spread God's Word" as we who are free.

Brother Mambo reports that the Church of God has approximately sixty congregations in his area in Zambia. He says, "I have been given permission to visit primary and secondary schools in the nine provinces of Zambia to



Karen Lowery

speak the Word of God, and we have started two kindergarten schools."

He makes known the need for "books, pens, pencils, boards, and chalk" and expresses appreciation for some cassette tapes and records which the General Department sent.

The General Department is making plans to put the complete set of Church Training Course texts in the English-speaking Church of God Bible Colleges around the world so that church workers everywhere may earn the Master Christian Service Training Diploma. A set has been sent to Zambia.

ALARKA (North Carolina) PEACEMAKERS SET EXAMPLE

Alarka Peacemakers, along with their capable leaders Janice Brooks, Jean Cocharan, and Pastor Arnold Hancock, have been busy working for their Lord and their church since they were organized in October.

At Halloween they passed out gospel tracts, witnessed, and invited people to church. The next Sunday a Catholic lady came. And the following Sunday she returned and gave her heart to God.

For Thanksgiving they presented a play for the Family Training Hour service. For Christmas they went caroling and distributed fruit baskets and gifts to needy families for the Ladies Auxiliary.

On New Year's they began reading the Bible through and studying the Old Testament prophets in Family Training Hour. For Valentine's Day they prepared a delicious supper for senior citizens in the church.

The reporter, Mrs. Arnold Hancock, says, "Praise God for young people that stand up for Jesus!"

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Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education

SHARE WITH US AN EXPERIENCE ABOUT ANSWERED PRAYER WHEN YOU WERE A TEENAGER.

When I was seven years of age, I fell from a very high preeipiee and fractured my skull. I was bedfast for thirty-three days and the doetors did not give very good odds that I would survive. I remember distinctly that my pastor and my mother knelt by my bed and prayed "in the name of Jesus" for my healing. I had a very strange experience while they were praying. I felt as if someone were pouring ice cold water over my entire body. It seemed that God's anointing was so strong that I was covered with goose bumps. It was that very hour that God miraculously healed me. I have been healed many times since then, but that time was such a speial time because it was my first real encounter with Jesus Christ. I did not understand it all at the time, but I knew that God had done something miraculus for me.

AS YOU WERE GROWING UP, HOW DID CHURCH ATTENDANCE HELP YOU TO ESTABLISH A STRONG FAITH?

My earliest recollections are about attending church. My mother is a very devout Christian; and when I was a small child, we at-

tended church regularly—even though many times we had to walk several miles. In those days rural churches would have "grove meetings" which amounted literally to segregated prayer meetings prior to the regular church services. The ladies would gather for prayer at one place and the men at another place. Then all would meet at the church for the regular service. I still remember very vividly those tremendous Pentecostal services of thirty-five to forty years ago when I was a presehooler. Those services are burned deeply into my memory as they first excited the insatiable hunger in my heart to know God.

Throughout the formative years



Robert White is the General Director of World Missions. Brother White began his ministry as a teenage evangelist and also served as state director of youth and Christian education of Louisiana when he was a teenager. He has served the church as pastor, state overseer, and as a member of special committees and boards. He has a deep love for young people and has set in motion several new projects to involve them in God's world mission's plan.

of my life, the preaching of the Word, the teaehing of the Word in Sunday school, and the anointed worship servies all combined to affect my beliefs, attitudes, values, and, most of all, my ambition to please God and to do His will.

HOW DOES INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD MISSIONS HELP YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOP CHRISTLIKENESS?

The term *world missions* is something of a misnomer. Missions is not a department of the church, beeause the mission of the church is to evangelize the world. The ministry of the World Missions Department is to witness, convert, and disceiple all peoples of the world. Therefore, World Missions is the heart of God, the mission of the church, and the embodiment of the Great Commission given by Jesus Christ. Whether young people are involved in Sunday school, Family Training Hour, Pioneers for Christ, or other church aetivities, they are all involved in some aspect of the total ministry of World Evangelism.

When young people are more closely involved with World Missions, they have a better understanding and pereception of God's expectation of the church. The more we understand God's total plan, the more Christlike we become. The more we participate in the total ministry of the church, the more we please the Heavenly Father.

Young people should get involved in World Missions to perceive the church as an *International Church* with a worldwide ministry of reaching the lost regardless of nationality or culture. This pereception will bring young people into closer harmony with the will of God and a greater understanding of the love of Jesus Christ.

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Dear Cari,

Someone may read this letter and say I'm about five years too late. I know it's too late . . . for you. But what about all the others who are in the position you were once in?

You were beautiful in your own way—short of stature, but outstanding in character. A few weeks before your eighteenth birthday, you took something that wasn't yours to take. You

took your life. Your twin sister, Mary, for the first time celebrated her birthday alone.

The first question that comes up is why? I'm sure Keith searched his heart. Had he hurt you in some way? Your parents were crushed. Was it something they had done? We, your friends . . . could we have helped you and didn't?

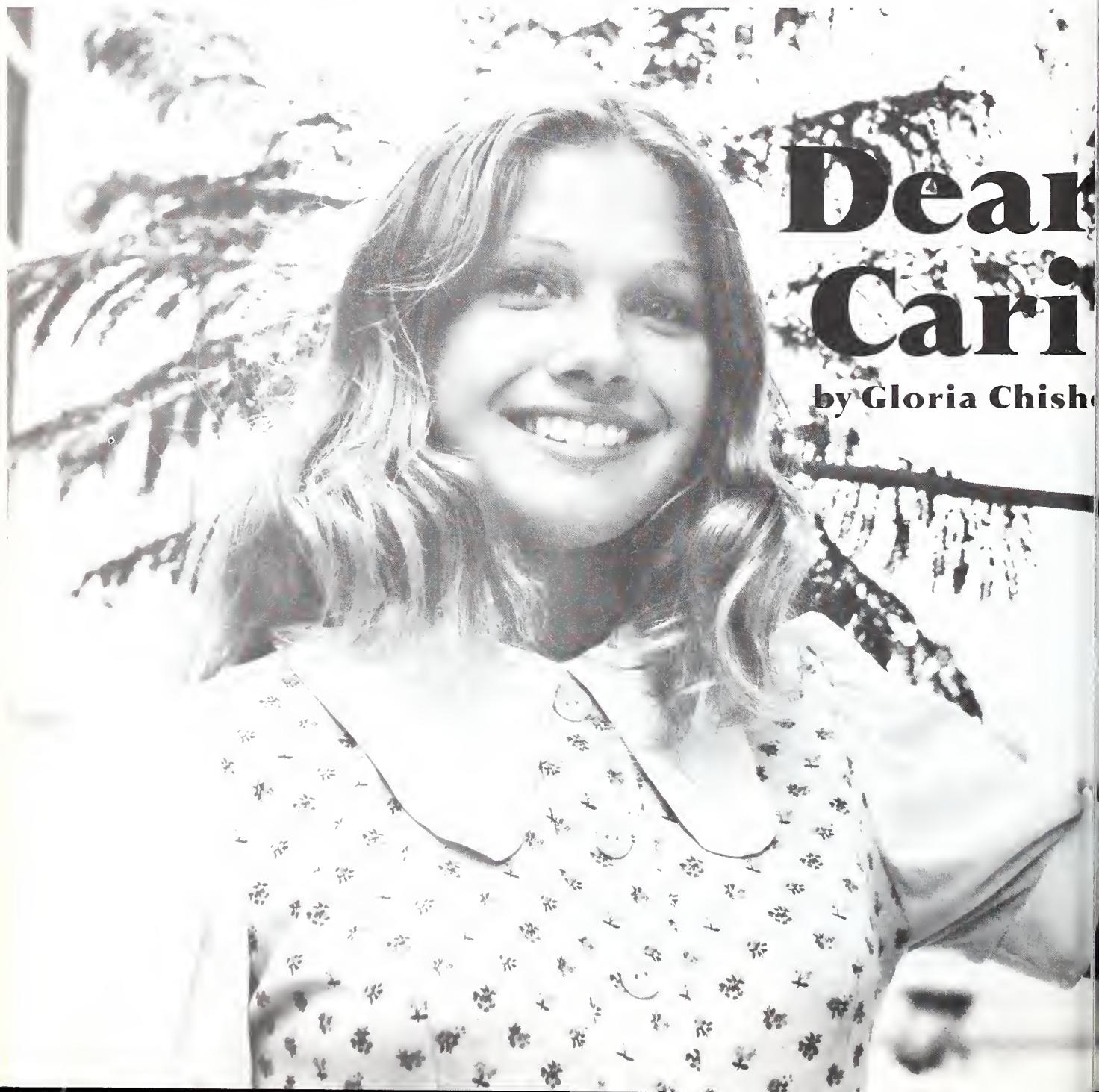
It was shortly after you'd moved away from home. Were

you afraid to face the world without the security of your family?

I recall a time when I wanted to die. Jim was killed in Vietnam. Remember? I wrote pages in my diary about death. I yearned to be with Jim and with God. I was preoccupied with death for over two years. But one day I met a person named Jesus Christ. I know now that He is the reason for living.

Dear Cari

by Gloria Chisholm



Had I known then what I know now, you might still be alive. Some people would laugh and say Jesus is just a cop-out. But I don't think you'd have been one of them. I believe you'd have been elated to know that the One who created you still loved you. Even when we failed you, He didn't. He was just waiting to answer the deepest groanings in your heart. You were crying out for love, never realizing that He was the only one who could satisfy that longing within.

I remember the times you came to school with your wrists bandaged. Pulling back the bandages, you'd reveal the ugly red wounds the razor blades had made. Was it attention you wanted? You had Jesus' attention all along, only you weren't aware of it. You'd think something like that would have wakened me to the fact that you needed help. Oh, why didn't I take you seriously?

There were times I could feel you aching from loneliness. The time you had your tonsils removed I sat by your bed for hours. You couldn't talk to me, but we had that silent communication that only the very closest of friends have. We didn't have to talk. Just my being there was enough. It would have been the perfect opportunity to share Jesus with you. You'd have been happy to listen. The only problem was that I didn't know Him either.

No amount of words on my part will bring you back . . . ever. It's too late to say I'm sorry, although I'm more sorry than you'll ever know.

Jesus is still holding His arms out to people just like you, Cari. He said: "I am come that . . . [you] might have life, and that . . . [you] might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

All my love,
Gloria

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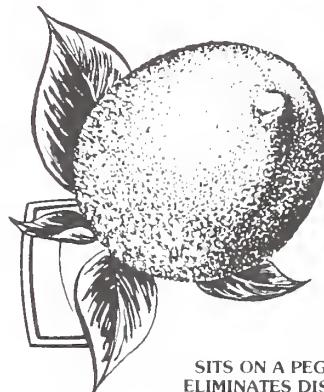
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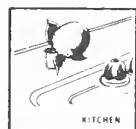
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Keynotes

Mary Morris, an accomplished musician, is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of a Church of God pastor.

by Mary S. Morris

MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- Q. My children are taking piano lessons. When they were beginners, I could help them with their practicing. Now they are beyond me musically, and I don't know how else I can help them.—Pennsylvania
- A. Other than taking more lessons yourself to advance beyond your children musically, there is little else you can do to help them musically. You can do several things, however, which are nonmusical in nature, but will strengthen your children as musicians.

(1) See that they practice their lessons every day. If practicing is part of their daily routine, such as immediately after school, there will be less of a hassle. Also, buy a timer, and let them set it for the practice time length themselves. They will know—as well as you—when the practice time is up. Since they practice only their lesson during the practice time, then they should be allowed to "fiddle around" on the piano after the timer bell

rings. This will permit them to do what is required as well as what they like to do.

(2) At least once a week (before the next lesson) sit down and let them perform their lessons for you. Ask them questions about the pieces and composers, as well as questions about technique and theory. For example, ask them, "What is a major scale?" "How do you finger that difficult passage?" "Where did the composer live?" or "What is the composer trying to get us to feel in this piece?" You will be surprised not only at how much you will learn, but how much your children will learn and retain musical facts from your showing interest. By showing your interest, your children will become more interested in their own musical education.

- Q. Right now my church choir is lagging a little. If you have any good ideas about rejuvenating a good church group, I would love to hear them.—Alabama

A. In addition to reorganization and recruiting efforts, a choir director could use a special event or service as a goal to work toward in rejuvenating the choir. An event or special service, such as Christmas, Easter, missions, camp meeting, or a choir tour, provides a goal to work toward. All choirs benefit from having special events (goals) to meet.

Often a special event is dreaded, because proper preparation takes time and hard work which most people don't like. A successful choir director, however, will want to inspire the choir members to renewed dedication by providing fresh and interesting music, a reason to perform it, and positive feedback from the first rehearsal. At the first few rehearsals, the choir will realize it has a long way to go at mastering the music. If the director provides positive feedback and the members feel that they are progressing—no matter how slowly—then the members are less likely to resent the hard work required.

Also if another choir is "outshining" them, it is then easy for the choir members to sit back and not only let the other choir "shine," but to let it take over their responsibilities. A choir often needs to be reminded of responsibilities and goals that are unique to it and of the ministry that only it can provide in the local church.

Next Issue: "After Teen Talent—What?"

From time to time questions of a musical nature will be answered in this column. Send your questions to Mary S. Morris, 129 Prince William St., Princess Anne, Maryland 21853.

Letters Add to Life's Zest

by

Raymond M. Veh



You have a friend—a man, a woman, a boy, or a girl. For some reason you love him or her very much. Have you ever told this friend so? Why not write an expression of your love. Now!

Your friend has helped you along the way in good days and bad days. Gratitude is in your

heart. Do not let it be buried there. Write it!

Some joy has come to your friend. You rejoice with him or her. But he or she will never know it unless you write it.

An honor comes to your friend. He or she is winning in the game of life, and you are glad. Write your felicitations!

Your friend succeeds in some task undertaken. You feel a lifting pride in such success. Write it!

A sorrow comes to your friend. He or she may have lost valued property. Some loved one may have died or may have pursued a defeating course. Disease may have laid its hand on this friend, taking away the glow of health. You would share the sorrow. Write it!

Your friend now rates the classification of "senior citizen." Nothing brings more happiness than receipt of a letter. The day's bright spot is the arrival of the mailman with a personal letter. Too often there is only "trash mail" and the postal deliveryman's visit is disappointing. A greeting from a longtime friend or a postcard from a traveling acquaintance of other days gives a lift which makes the day happier and more satisfying. Write that letter or card—Today!

A personal word, a telephone call, a postcard, a letter, a telegram, and only a few minutes of time can bring joy, sympathy, renewal of mutual ties. Your own life will be better for this endeavor to span time and miles. Your friend can go to the end of life's journey with the certainty of your caring love. It's your opportunity to add to another's joy, to lighten the load of a friend, to brighten the way for those who have enriched your life. Today add zest to another's life by your spoken or written expression of concern.

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"Teach Me to Love—A Prayer"

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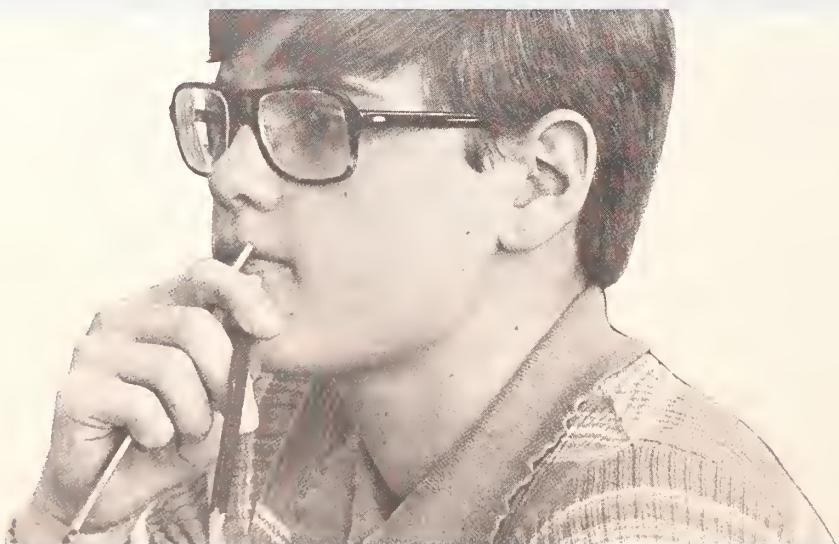
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"Blood on the Doorposts"

Barbara Gibson
OKLAHOMA
"Where Do I Belong?"

Guy M. Glass
FLORIDA
"For Little Children and Grandma"

Jamie Meade
WEST VIRGINIA
"Surrender Behind the Iron Curtain"

Teresa Hill
WESTERN CANADA
"An Experience to Share"



Rohn Engh Photo

We could not be late. There was only a short time between the time Bill's meeting adjourned and flight time. Suzanne and I were to meet him right on time and drive him to the airport. There were no later planes; he had to be on time. It was this one or none. We pulled into the lot at the airport, ran to the terminal, checked the baggage, and noted the gate number of the flight.

"What time is it, Honey?" Bill called over his shoulder as he hurried up the corridor with Suzanne pattering close behind. I looked at my watch. "Well?" he said, impatient for my answer. But I could not tell him.

The silver watchband sparkled there on my arm, the crystal was clear and intact, the frame that held it was secure—but the watch, the works, the part that really mattered was gone. How I had lost it I did not know. Where or when it had dropped out I could not say. All I knew was that when I needed it most, it was gone.

I keep that watchband and the empty case and even wear it sometimes. No one has ever stopped me to tell me the "works" are gone. It looks very nearly perfect; you could hardly tell if you saw me on the street that it is only an empty shell of a watch. But it makes no sound, there is no movement, and the time it cannot tell. Actually, there is nothing there of any value at all. I keep it, though, to remind me. . . .

I may do all the right things; I may appear at all the right functions of the church. I may wear the proper clothes and the accepted hairdo and the appropriate facial expression. The facade may be very holy. But it is that which is inside that counts. If the "works" are missing, no one may notice it. Probably



Everett C. Johnson Photo

GIVE ME THE WORKS

by Gloria Gaither

no one will stop me and say, "Pardon me, but I believe you have lost something."

The loss may be so subtle, so gradual, and so silent that I may not even realize it myself. I could be too busy going through the motions of being a Christian to sense the loss.

It is only in times of stress, when the pressure is on, that I would discover to my utter amazement that the works were missing and that I had been so

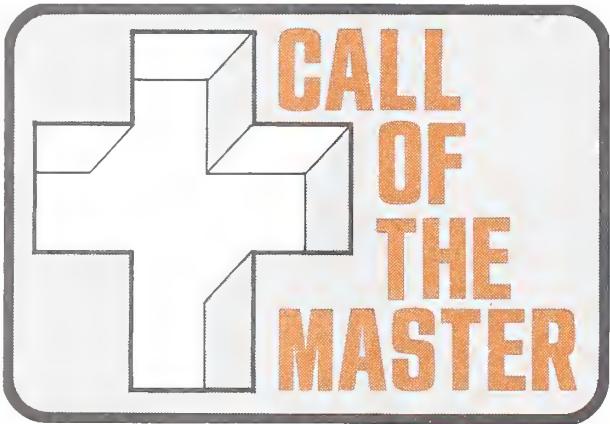


A. Devaney, Inc., Photo

busy doing and acting that I had forgotten the "being." It is possible to lose the real richness, the precious pearl of great price, the 21-jewel works somewhere along the way and not even know where, or when, or how.

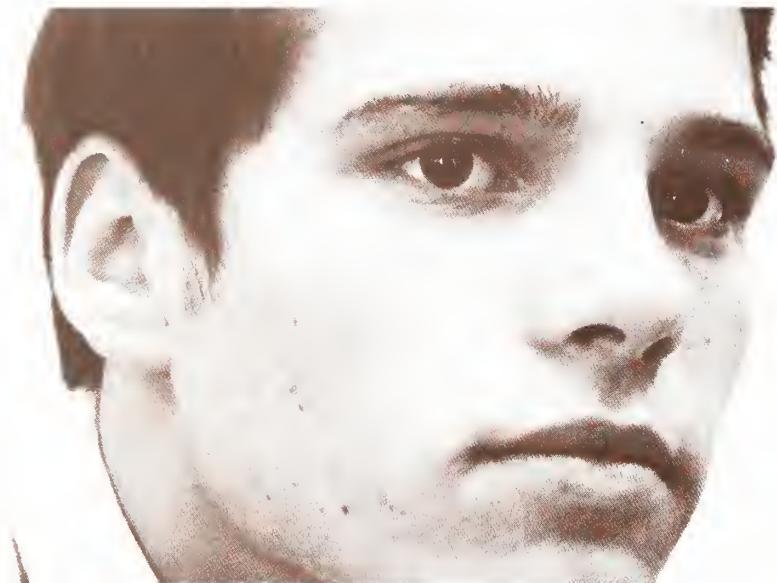
So sometimes I wear that workless watch to remind me that the value is in the "being," and that is a daily thing.

From *Make Warm Noises*, by Gloria Gaither, © 1971 by IMPACT BOOKS, a division of The Benson Company. Used by permission.



by J. Stephen Conn

WHAT'S BUGGING YOU MOST?



Alan Clitburn Photo

At 11 p.m. sharp an unexpected rap came at the parsonage door. I quickly got dressed and unlocked the latch to see a young man standing nervously in the cool night air. "Pastor, can I talk with you for a minute?" he stammered. "I've got this problem and I need to talk with someone."

I knew Larry and I quickly invited him in. Larry was a member of another church in our city, but he frequently visited the Sunday night services at the Church of God where I pastored. He came with Sue, a young lady from our church to whom he was engaged to be married.

"My problem is with Sue," Larry began. "We don't seem to be getting along too well lately."

I counseled with him for a while and soon the subject of our conversation shifted from Sue to salvation. Although Larry was a church member and had been baptized as a baby, he confessed that he had never been born again. He knew a lot about Jesus, but he had never accepted Christ as his personal Savior.

It was half past midnight when Larry and I knelt at a living room chair and he repeated after me the sinner's prayer:

"Dear God, I admit that I am a sinner. I am sorry for my sins

and I'm asking you now for your forgiveness. I believe, Jesus, that You are the Son of God and that You died on the cross and rose from the dead to save me. I accept You now as my personal Savior. Thank You, God, for saving me. Amen."

Larry really meant that prayer and he was born again in that instant.

Perhaps that is the only time I ever apologized to anyone for helping them find Jesus Christ. But shortly after we finished our prayer I said, "Larry, I know that you came by here to talk about your girl friend. Forgive me for getting off the subject and talking with you about your soul."

"Oh, no, don't feel bad," he said. "To be truthful, it was this spiritual thing that was bugging me most. I need Jesus more than I need Sue."

Larry had discovered one of the great truths of life—that all of man's problems are basically spiritual. We can never be completely right in our relationships with anyone else, or even with ourselves, until we are first right with God. Until Jesus finds His rightful place in our hearts, none of the other pieces of life seem to fit together the way they should.

Several months later Larry and Sue stood in the living room of the parsonage in front of the very chair where Larry had accepted Jesus as his Savior. And there I had the privilege of pronouncing them husband and wife. Today their lives are happy together, because they are built on the solid foundation, Jesus Christ.

If it seems the foundation of your own life is a bit shaky and you aren't sure of your footing, the same prayer that Larry repeated will work for you. There is no magic in the words of the prayer. However, when they become the sincere cry of our heart, God always understands and forgives.

Not by Bread Alone

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit"

Several years ago James A. Pike, former Episcopal bishop of California, was found dead in the wilderness near Bethlehem. His death was freighted with symbolism, for earlier he had publicly turned his back on Christianity, stating that he was not a Christian. Then he lost the battle for his life in the very wilderness where Christ confronted Satan.

Just as the bishop failed in life to be a driving force for the saving power of Jesus, he also failed during his last hours to be triumphant over his natural surroundings. He did not fare nearly so well in the wilderness as did Jesus. Quite likely they fought the battle differently.

In that wilderness temptation the Lord made a statement to Satan that served as a pungent rebuke to the tempter. Though Christ was gaunt and ravished with hunger, having existed forty days without food, he refused to yield to Satan's suggestion that He turn stones into bread. Like ancient Job who stated that he thought God's Word was more important than food, Jesus told the devil, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

Christ was teaching the devil, and young people, a very consequential lesson. He

would have you to know for a certainty that neither just the things you eat, nor just the things you wear, nor just the things you own, nor just the things you do are to be considered sufficient for your existence. Precisely, the Lord was saying that life is much more than your appetite.

Jonathan Goforth, a powerful man of God who ministered to the Chinese during the first third of this century, knew that man should not live by bread alone. He wrote a book based on the scripture, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord" (Zechariah 4:6). Using the title *By My Spirit*, Goforth points out repeatedly how God worked in his ministry, not by man's ingenuity, but by His own Spirit.

Missionary Goforth learned that prayer, dependence upon God's Word, and trusting himself to the guidance of the Holy Spirit was the only key to successful work among the Chinese. An experience which he relates is worth repeating here. After faithfully ministering for nineteen years on the mission field, he had experienced almost no spiritual results. Then suddenly God began to richly bless. Whereas formerly only a few came to hear him, now the people came by the hundreds, and later by the thousands. Revival swept the area and scores were saved.

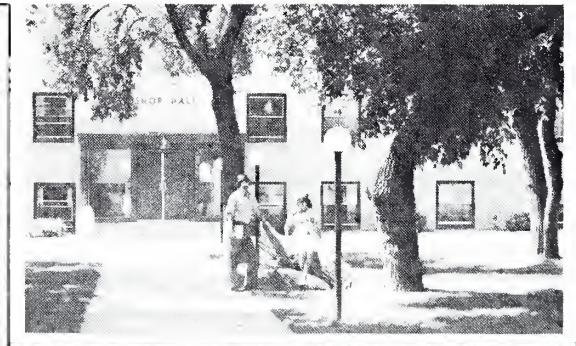
During a certain worship service, Goforth sat on the rostrum facing a sea of eager faces. Satan whispered to him that he was finally a success. "All of these people have come just to hear you. You are one of the most important preachers in the world," the tempter said. Goforth was agreeing with him, enjoying the feeling of accomplishment; but then the missionary realized that actually Satan was tempting him. He recoiled from the devil and prayed this prayer: "God, I am willing to be as the smallest atom floating through space, if only Your name can be glorified." The devil ceased his temptation.

Today, God is eager to bless you and me, spiritually speaking. He wants us to be victors in the wilderness, as was His Son. He does not want us to be victims of the wilderness, as was Bishop Pike. Of course, the choice is up to us. If we live by bread alone, there is no alternative but that we be swallowed up by this world's wilderness. However, if through prayer, Bible study, and trust, we will establish a balance for our lives between bread and every word that comes from the mouth of God, we will triumph over the wilderness of this world. ☩



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LIGHTED **Pathway**

GUIDING YOUTH



“OUR RICH HERITAGE”
National Youth Emphasis

LIGHTED Pathway

GUIDING YOUTH

September, 1978
Volume 49, Number 9

CONTENTS

- 4** I Have a Rich Heritage Because . . .
- 6** Our Rich Heritage (National Youth Emphasis, October 4, 6, 8)
By Lamar Vest
- 8** I Am Not Alone
By Nancy Neal
- 10** Ministries of the Church of God
By Lewis J. Willis
- 12** I Am Involved
By Yvonne Bell
- 14** Like a Mighty Army Moves the Church of God
By Carolyn Dirksen
- 16** I Am a Pentecostal Believer
By Dan Stone
- 18** Youth's Rich Heritage—*The Lighted Pathway*
By Clyne W. Buxton
- 20** The Development of Youth Ministries
By O. W. Polen
- 22** Our Rich Heritage
By Raymond Culpepper
- 24** Our Doctrinal Heritage
By J. Ralph Brewer
- 26** Your Heritage and the Future
By Floyd D. Carey

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I Have a Rich Heritage

BECAUSE...



George M. Bowles



Hyman Stansky



Debbie Wooden



Ray Looney



Kimberly Dawsey

George M. Bowles—Florida

I have a rich heritage, because my life is hid in Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches that since my life is hid in Christ, I have become a member of God's family. It specifically announces that I am a joint heir with Christ! I have inherited eternal life through my blessed Savior. However, there was a time in which my life was not hid in Christ. And at that time, I was a miserable servant to sin.

However, God blessed me to be reared in a Christian home. It was here that I began to understand God's universal plan for mankind. But I must give due credit to the Church of God for my enlightenment of the rich heritage that I now possess. For it was the church that taught me the ways of God. Yes, I do have a rich heritage, because I was made aware of it early through the Church of God.

Hyman Stansky—Alabama

I have been associated with and involved in a church that is both reaching out to the world and is helping to mold and guide the lives of many people. The rich heritage I have is built upon love and strength which the pioneer Church of God members possessed.

When an obstacle got in their way, they refused to be overcome by it, but determined in their hearts that through God's help, the Church of God would stand on a solid foundation. Strong Christian leaders have built upon this foundation, guiding lives into Christian service and ministering to those in need. I am grateful to my Christian forefathers for creating the great heritage of which I am a part.

Debbie Wooden—Michigan

As I look back over the years that I've been in the Church of God, I can truthfully say I have a rich heritage. The church has progressed so much since it first began, and many great men and women have struggled and given their lives to help the church be what it is today. And I'm proud to say that I'm a part of this great church.

The church by far has been the focal point of my life, and I have gained strength and courage through it and the people that make it what it is. I can truthfully say that I feel the Church of God is the greatest, and I appreciate our forefathers for treading the way before us.

Ray Looney—North Carolina

The Church of God is my life. My dad being a minister in the church (pastoring in North Car-



cause of their Pentecostal experience. For these reasons, the church is one big family. The bond that sticks us together makes me proud to be a member of the Church of God and very proud of its rich heritage.

Kimberly Dawsey—

North Carolina

My life has been richly blessed primarily because of my Christian heritage. I have been greatly influenced by the Church of God. Daily my character has been molded directly and indirectly through associations with the church family. Various persons have played important roles in shaping my future. These concerned individuals, such as Sunday school teachers, pastors, and church members have always readily exemplified the Christ-like life.

Being part of a family which is firmly rooted in the Church of God, I've seen how important it is to become active in church work. Through regular attendance and special activities, Christian guidance has readily been mine.

This heritage is given to each church member, but only through personal commitment to Christ can it be preserved. I found that my commitment is not only for preserving but also for sharing. I have a rich heritage that I must share with others, because it has enabled me to live a fuller life in Christ.

Denise Smith—Tennessee

As long as I can remember, I have been the daughter of a minister living in a Church of God parsonage. I grew up knowing I was "Church of God" but not quite understanding what it meant. I joined the church when I was in the eighth grade, but I still didn't realize what I was getting myself into.

There were times when I re-

sented the rules of the church and wished I could do the things my friends of other denominations did. I felt that my religion was nothing but rules and regulations that restricted me from living like a normal young person.

It wasn't until I came to Lee College that I realized that I was wrong. As I studied, I learned that the Church of God was started by people who weren't satisfied to be like everyone else. They wanted to be more. They were willing to give up everything or do anything to help them draw closer to God. Even if it meant being different, they were willing to do it.

I realized that this was how it should be in my life. When I put God first, none of the other things seemed important any more. I am very proud to be a young person in the Church of God today, and I hope I can be more like the founders of this church. It is because of them that I feel I have a very rich heritage.





OUR Rich Heritage

National Youth Emphasis—October 4, 6, 8

by Lamar Vest, Assistant General Director

Suppose you were called upon to give an impromptu speech before your classmates at school. Your teacher knows you are a regular attender of the Church of

God and has assigned you a two-minute talk on "I attend the Church of God because . . ." What would you say? Write it down in the space below.

I ATTEND THE CHURCH OF GOD BECAUSE . . .

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



God depends upon you, our youth. The preservation of our doctrinal distinctiveness depends upon your dedication, your commitment, and your loyalty. You need to have a knowledge of the historical background of your church. You need to understand the message and ministry of your church. You need to appreciate the inner workings of the church and the doctrinal distinctives that have made the Church of God what it is.

The General Department of Youth and Christian Education is committed to the proposition that you, our youth, are a vital part of the body and function of the church. National Youth Emphasis for 1978, "Our Rich Heritage," is an outgrowth of that commitment. You have a right to know about your church. You also have a responsibility to know about your church. National Youth Emphasis, "Our Rich Heritage," is for you.

Whatever your reasons are for attending the Church of God, we are glad you do. Perhaps if you knew more about your church, its history, its ministry, and the people in it you could give even greater reasons for being a part of it.

You are a part of the church, you know. A very vital part of it. And that is why the General Department of Youth and Christian Education feels that you should know as much as possible about the church.

Do you know when the Church of God began? Do you know why it began? Have you heard about the persecution of our early church members? Do you know about the organizational structure and where your local church fits in? How much do you know about the ministry and world outreach of the church?

The future of the Church of

MATERIALS

Filmstrip and Cassette Soundtrack

The main thrust of this youth emphasis is a special filmstrip with cassette soundtrack. This full-color visual presents a brief history of the Church of God, narrated by former General Overseer Houston R. Morehead. It shows the Church of God at work around the world today and challenges youth to preserve our rich heritage for future generations. The filmstrip is a must for all churches interested in teaching denominational loyalty to their young people.

Planning Guide

An "Our Rich Heritage" Planning Guide is included in the *1978-79 Youth and Christian Education Planbook*. The planning guide gives a step-by-step participation strategy, for local church leadership.

Poster

An eye-catching 11-by-17-inch poster has been prepared by the General Department of Youth and Christian Education. Its unique and colorful design will enhance your promotional program and will alert the entire congregation to the importance of the "Our Rich Heritage" emphasis.

Souvenir Coin

A special coin which features the "Our Rich Heritage" logo on one side and a picture of the Church of God logo on the other side has been produced as a special memento for your youth. This souvenir coin will be a cherished keepsake for Church of God youth. It will serve as a constant reminder of "Our Rich Heritage" blessings and benefits.

I Am NOT ALONE

by Nancy Neal



"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2: 42).

Most churches are strong advocates of doctrine, prayer, and communion. But the key ingredient—the apostolic fellowship—is missing. The youth of the Church of God have realized that "people who need people are the luckiest people in the world." Christ has redeemed us, not for isolation, but for fellowship. And He has commanded us to love one another.

Obedient to that command, as Church of God youth we recognize that we are members of one family. We are all part of His body, and every believer is in a special way our brother in Christ. It is part of our rich heritage to

address each other as "brother" and "sister." Whether we admit it or not, we all need each other. It is a vital part of our "family" relationship to communicate with brothers and sisters of "like precious faith" (1 Peter 1:1).

Loneliness, an acquaintance of practically everyone, is a feeling much better experienced than described. So, too, is fellowship. The youth fellowship realm of the Church of God covers a broad expanse: Teen Talent, youth camp, YWEA, Peacemakers, Peace Cadets, YLA, youth retreats—the list is endless. Thus, we are provided multiple opportunities to *experience* fellowship. We are given the chance to take the risk of exposing ourselves to the possibility of rejection. And, as Church of God youth, we have taken that risk. We have become vulnerable, just as did Christ as He hung on the cross—His arms outstretched so that He could not protect Himself, His body exposed and vulnerable—offering Himself as Savior and Friend. We share each other's burdens, each other's problems, each other's load in life. We care! Real brotherly love—real fellowship—has caused us to care.

On every hand, we come in contact with jealousy, friction, gossip, and just plain bad manners—even on the part of some Christians in their dealings with and attitudes toward other Christians. And we have all been guilty of this to some degree. Yet, Christian love is refreshing; it

provides the necessary healing balm.

This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience—it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive: it is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance. Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it shares the joy of those who live by the truth. Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. Love never fails (1 Corinthians 13:4-8, Phillips).

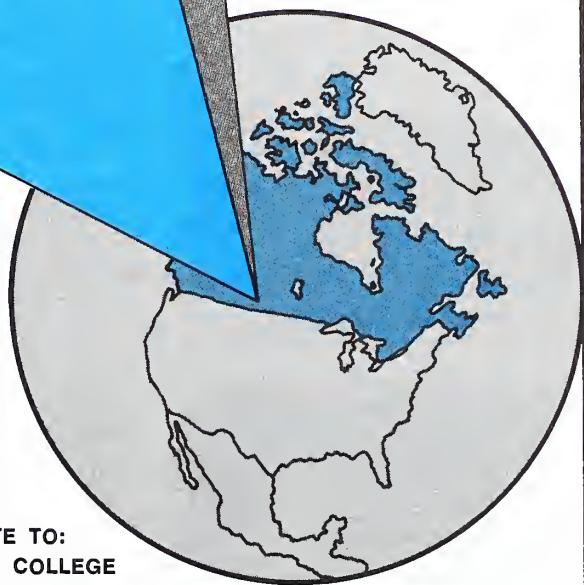
Church of God youth have been guided into this definition of love—love which is, in turn, the key to fellowship. The Church of God has provided us with a church which is accepting, democratic, inclusive, and filled with the Spirit—a fellowship where young people can say, "I'm sunk!" "I can't go on!" "I've had it!" and then realize that "I am not alone." Through compassionate concern and empathetic identification, we "through love . . . serve one another" (Galatians 5: 13, Amplified). Church of God youth reflect the power of apostolic fellowship.

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MINISTRIES of the Church of God

by Lewis J. Willis, Director of Public Relations

It is not likely that any person ever was less prepared to become a Christian witness than I. By nature I was very introverted and shy. There was little in my family culture which enabled me religiously, psychologically, or educationally to interact meaningfully in a spiritual sharing with others.

When I received Christ, I was aware of the incredible experience which engulfed me, but I was not sufficiently oriented religiously to know how to define what I had received. Only later did I know that proper theological definitions of my spiritual encounter were those of being saved, sanctified, and Spirit-filled. The critical adventure of adapting my life-style to this crisis-experience would continue even to this very day.

Sometimes we would have "testimony meetings," and on those occasions I would undergo times of exquisite suffering as I desperately wanted to speak words of praise to the Lord but was virtually frightened into immobility by the prospect. Often I would phrase a super testimony in my thoughts; but when I gained sufficient courage to rise to speak, immediately that eloquent testimony vanished!

There were many young persons like me. We had been rescued through the saving gospel of Jesus Christ to become Christians, but we were in critical

need of being nurtured in the faith and schooled in church membership. Loving people from the local congregation did nurture us tenderly and carefully.

I remember vividly my first serious attempt to speak in public. Frankly, I was only a step away from being stupefied with fear. When I stood to speak, my



breath came in gasps and my knees literally knocked together—but I did speak! In preparation for that momentous attempt, however, were numerous episodes where I was slowly trained first to say a few words with a group, then later alone until I could think and speak on my feet.

Many of us in the Church of God today owe whatever opportunity, position, or success we have achieved to those of our church who knew it was not enough to win a soul to Christ but urgently necessary to tutor and develop that person to become what he should be in Christ. The splendid heritage young people have in the church includes a program of ministries designed to receive a child into nursery school and nurture him spiritually until he is a senior adult.

The ultimate purpose, therefore, of the dozen or so departments of the church is to contribute to the total ministry of the church; that is, to win people to Christ, to teach and train them, and to involve them meaningfully in the witness of the gospel.

To discuss in detail the numerous emphases provided by these departments is not desirable for our specific purpose. It is important, however, that young people see clearly that the church, under God, is ministering specifically to them in the vital areas of evangelism, Christian education, stewardship, and world missions.

Within the Department of Evangelism and Home Missions alone are sixteen separate vital ministries of evangelism. Included are Kids Crusades and Kids Clubs which reach multitudes of

youth each year. There are similar or coordinate programs sponsored by the Youth and Christian Education and Ladies Auxiliary Departments. In addition are Pioneers for Christ and lay evangelism activities where person-to-person contacts are made with young people.

The Youth and Christian Education, the Editorial and the Publishing departments team to provide a splendid range of teaching-training materials for the Sunday school and Family Training Hour ministries. More than twenty million pieces of Christian literature are printed and distributed annually.

Youth identity programs, with the Peace Cadets (ages 9-12) and the Peacemakers (ages 13-19), plus vacation Bible schools, youth camps, and many other youth-oriented activities, all combine in a wide-ranging Christian education emphasis. In addition are numerous day-care and kindergarten facilities, over one hundred church-sponsored elementary schools, over forty Bible schools outside the United States, and five colleges within the United States.

Several of the general departments correlate in providing stewardship programming. The Ladies Auxiliary through the Joy Belles offers motivation to young girls. Scouting, Peacemakers, and Peace Cadets, sponsored by the Youth and Christian Education Department, appeal to both young men and women. Involvement in competitive programs relating to music, Bible, creative writing, and art challenge many young people.

Perhaps the program which has claimed the rapt attention of youth as much as any single proj-

ect has been the Youth World Evangelism Appeal. This is a joint ministry of the World Missions and Youth and Christian Education departments. This effort has involved hundreds of thousands of young people for several years in raising millions of dollars to build youth centers, Bible schools and seminaries, and church buildings in strategic parts of the world. These projects are now ministering effectively in such places as Tokyo, Japan; Manila, Philippines; Brasilia, Brazil; Seoul, Korea; and Durban, South Africa.

Indeed, Church of God young people possess an immense and superbly rich heritage in their church. The church cares and provides for them. Millions of dollars are invested in splendid materials, life-related programs, accredited colleges, and much more. More importantly, the church offers a theology and a faith, biblically-based, that young people can believe in and live by.

The spiritual stamina and courageous faith of our early leaders moved an infant congregation of eight persons from the foothills of the Unicoi Mountains in Eastern Tennessee and Western North Carolina to become a vibrant group of some one million members in one hundred countries of the world.

Today the Church of God is growing at the rate of more than one new church per day. Recognized as a leader among the classical Pentecostal churches of our time, the Church of God now provides strategic multiple ministries to the world and has unparalleled opportunity to bring them to bear upon the needs of the world. This is the heritage of Church of God young people.

I Am INVOLVED

by Yvonne Bell

The Church of God, through many years of development and under the leadership of many great men, has brought the present generation of young people to a place of active involvement. It is because of our church's beliefs, standards, and practices of the past that I am involved.

Music has always been an integral part of worship. Being a lover of music, I have been incorporated into the church music program locally, statewide, and nationally. In my local church, I have served as the pianist for three different choirs—the Teen Choir, the King's Men, and the Solid Rock Singers. I have served as the pianist for several outreach missions and have been a member of a trio for the past two years.

On the state level, the Church of God has offered me a chance to be involved musically in the summer youth camps and camp meetings that are held annually. Also, the Teen Talent Program of the state has been a great opportunity to be involved in music. This program, which extends across the nation, has given me the chance to use my talents and to win the national championship, keyboard division.

Realizing the importance of training children in the church, I have been involved in teaching several children's classes. During the summer Daily Vacation Bible School, I was able to work with a class of five-year-olds. Also,

each Sunday morning I teach an extended session class of five-year-olds. I am very thankful to be able to help lead these children to the knowledge of Christ.

The Church of God has also offered me the opportunity to further educate myself by operating Lee College. It is such a privilege to attend a school where classes are opened with prayer, time is taken to hold chapel services four times weekly, and where the Spirit is free to move. Not only is there a great opportunity to grow mentally and socially, but the spirituality of each student is given a chance to mature.

Although it is great to be involved musically, that is not the most important aspect of involvement to me. I am thankful for the way I can be involved spiritually through worship. There is no greater feeling than to know that the Church of God—my church—allows me to be totally involved in worshiping our Lord.

In small prayer meetings held in different homes, I have been able to study the Bible, share prayer requests, and take them to the Lord with my friends. During church services, the Word of God is preached and the Spirit is present to guide, call, or comfort those who need Him. There could be no greater privilege than belonging to a church that believes in total freedom of worship and praise.

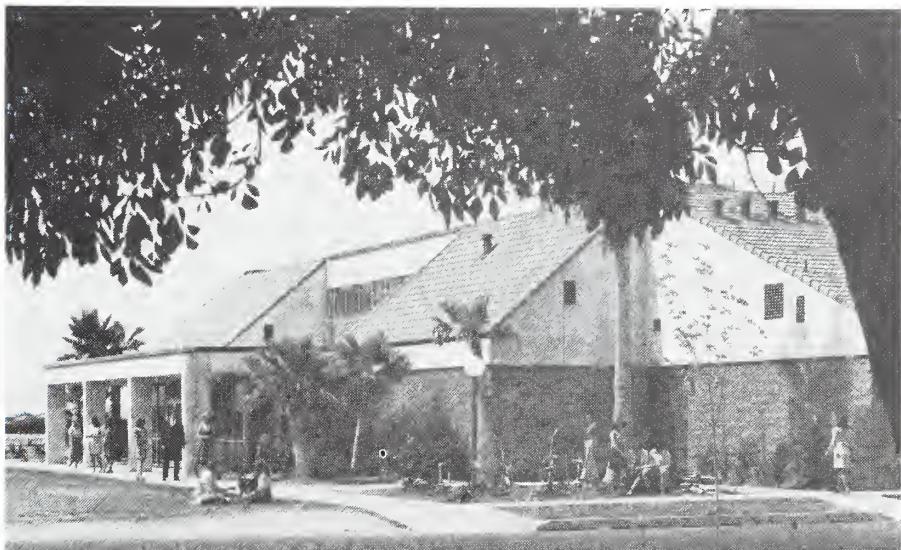
We are living in a time when many young people are bored, restless, and tired of doing nothing. Many turn to drugs, alcohol, or various "thrills" in an effort to escape the drudgery of their lives. But my "thrills" have been found in knowing that my church offers many activities in which I can participate. Because of the Church of God, not only I, but countless others, can say, "I am involved."



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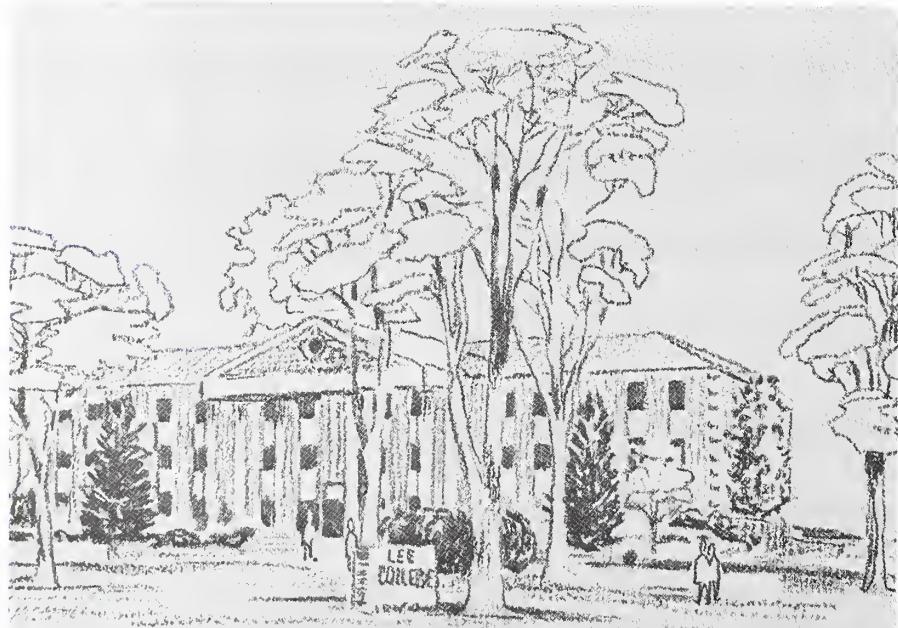
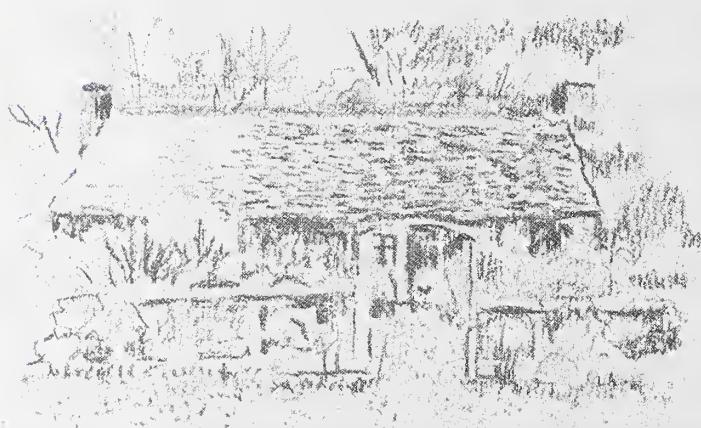
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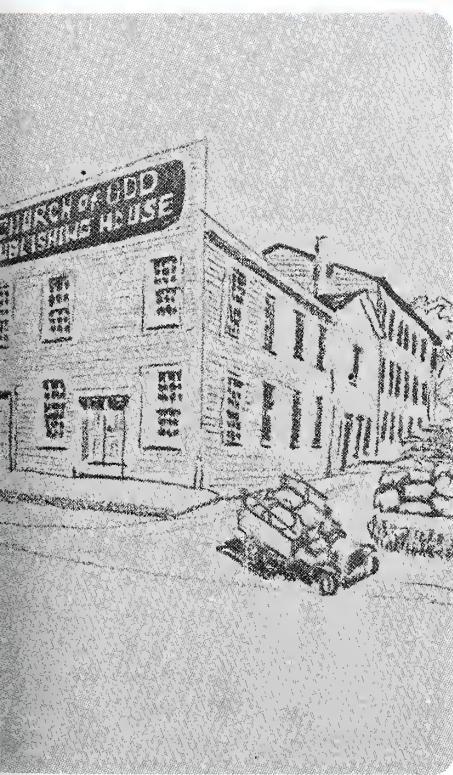
Like A **MIGHTY ARM** *Moves the* **CHURCH OF GOD**

by Carolyn Dirksen





"... IN LESS THAN A
CENTURY—CARRIED ITS
MESSAGE TO MILLIONS
WORLDWIDE."



In 1886, in the backwoods of the Unicoi Mountains, eight simple country people left their formal churches to worship together as the Christian Union. They believed the gospel was simple and open, and they wanted to worship spontaneously in their own way. They wanted the Bible—not philosophy or current events—to be the center of their doctrine and preaching. Led by Richard G. Spurling, that humble group shared their faith, spreading the good news of salvation from hill to hollow with a dedication and enthusiasm that withstood persecution and social pressure and—in less than a century—carried its message to millions worldwide.

Because of their sincerity in seeking God's will, the band of eight had grown to over a hundred by 1896, and they all received the baptism of the Holy Spirit during a schoolhouse revival in North Carolina. Severe persecution followed the Pentecostal outpouring, but the group continued to grow and evangelize, spreading its doctrine throughout Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia. By 1906 the organization was far-flung enough to necessitate its first General Assembly held in Cherokee County, North Carolina, with twenty-one delegates.

In 1907, the rapidly expanding group changed its name to the Church of God; and by 1909, it recognized the need for a single leader and selected A. J. Tomlinson as the first general overseer. By this time, the church had taken its message to Alabama and Florida and was ready by 1910 to send out its first missionaries. Recognizing the need for well-trained leaders and an informed constituency, the church instituted its official journal, the *Evangel*, in 1910 and opened its first Bible college, Bible Training School, in 1918.

During the 1920's, the burgeoning organization enacted its concern for young people by opening the Home for Children and by establishing its first youth organization, the Young People's Endeavor, and its first youth publication, the *Lighted Pathway*. An auditorium constructed in Cleveland, Tennessee, during the twenties was outgrown by 1934, and the General Assembly convened in Chattanooga. The westward expansion of the movement was indicated by the 1934 opening of a second Bible college in Minot, North Dakota. Two years later, the first international Bible school was opened in Saskatchewan, Canada.

As the constituents of the church became increasingly distant from each other, the General Assembly, held annually since 1906, was changed to a biennial meeting. The growth also made it necessary to establish the position of National Sunday School and Youth Director. The youth department had grown in number and influence so rapidly that by 1957, young people in the United States were ready to share the missionary effort, and the Youth World Evangelism Appeal was formed, building a church in Brasilia, Brazil, as its first project.

Evangelism and Home Missions, the Ladies Auxiliary, and the church's radio ministry blossomed during the late '50s and early '60s, as did lay involvement through the formation of the National Laymen's Board. The social progress of the church and its ready concern for brothers in Christ were demonstrated in 1966 by the structural integration of the black and white churches.

During the past decade, the church has expanded into inner-city ministries, increased home missions efforts, and carried the gospel into nearly one hundred countries and territories. The denomination's current international membership is nearing one million, and the church supports four colleges in the United States and fifty-two Bible schools and institutes worldwide. The church promotes education, research, evangelism, use of mass media, and extensive missionary efforts to bring the faith of its eight humble founders to a battered world eager to hear the simple truth.

As a member of the Church of God, the son of a Church of God minister, and a student at Lee College, it is not difficult to find reasons for being a Pentecostal believer. But when Pentecostal blood flows through one's veins and Pentecostal worship is an established way of life, it becomes easy, at times, for young believers to simply accept their faith as inherited tradition, as just "the way things are."

We live in a troubled age in which moral uncertainty and spiritual restlessness claim many complacent minds. Ours is a probing, questioning generation of truth seekers, and it is not enough to merely exist in blind acceptance of the faith. Rather, we must understand the foundation upon which our church is established. And we must build our Pentecostal life-style around these solid biblical truths.

The Church of God is the old-

Testament as its only rule for government and discipline.

As leaders of a full-gospel church, our founding fathers diligently searched the Word of God for the scriptural rock on which to base their Pentecostal faith. Consequently, the fruit of their labor was an institution ordained by God as a means of preserving holiness in an increasingly unholy world.

Today the Church of God continues to preserve holiness and to present the gospel in its purest form. Not only do we believe in salvation from sin through faith in Jesus Christ, as presented in Romans 5, but we also believe in the Christian's ability to live a truly righteous daily life. This fundamental doctrine dates back to the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit—the promised "Comforter"—was poured out upon the disciples in the Upper Room. Today the church continues to

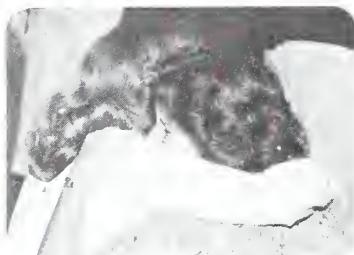
that we as believers are able to achieve God's standard of holiness for our lives. For the Church of God is a holiness church, dedicated to a way of life far removed from the mainstream of worldliness. We believe that as part of the body of Christ we should reflect His purity and His goodness and that we should strive for His perfection of spirit as stated in Titus 2:11-14.

In addition to these central Pentecostal concepts—forgiveness of sin through faith in Christ and righteous living through the power of the Holy Spirit—the Church of God also believes in the culmination of Christian living in eternal life for all who accept Him as personal Savior. The hope of our Pentecostal faith lies in the rapture of the believers to live and reign with Christ forever, as promised in 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17. On the other hand, the church staunchly believes in the ultimate condemnation and eternal punishment of all those who reject Christ and the beauty of His sacrifice (Matthew 25:41-46).

These are the cornerstones of our Pentecostal structure. These are the enlightened truths upon which our religious heritage is based. And in an age characterized by meandering individualism and self-satisfying philosophy, it is essential for the young believer to be anchored to these truths through a stable understanding of their implications. It is not enough to merely drift along in the waters of religious tradition. Our Pentecostal heritage is a rich and blessed one, but its greatest benefits can only be realized—and perpetuated—through the knowledge and application of its principles. Because of my faith in these principles, *I am* a Pentecostal believer and my legacy is the grandest possible!

I Am a **Pentecostal Believer**

by Dan Stone



est and fastest-growing Pentecostal denomination in the world. From its humble beginnings in the southeastern United States in the late 1800's to its present state of heightened membership and prestige, the Church of God has stood for the whole Bible rightly divided, with the New

Testament as its only rule for government and discipline.

live in the light of this Pentecostal truth. We firmly believe in maintaining righteousness in daily living through the power received by baptism in the Holy Ghost with the initial evidence of speaking in tongues as outlined in Acts 2.

It is only through this power



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YOUTH'S RICH The *Lighted*

by Clyne Buxton



Alda B. Harrison 1929-1948



Charles W. Conn 1948-1952



Lewis J. Willis 1952-1962



Clyne W. Buxton 1962-1978

God showed His deep concern for Church of God youth when He gave them the *Lighted Pathway*. Born in the heart of a lone woman with a consuming burden for young people, the magazine has ministered to youth for the last forty-nine years.

Alda B. Harrison a Church of God woman in Cleveland, Tennessee, began the *Lighted Pathway* in August 1929. This determined lady initiated her eight-page publication with no financial backing and little encouragement from friends.

In its formative years the periodical suffered a life-or-death struggle, and close friends of the editor said it could not survive. As a loving mother watches over a critically ill infant, Mrs. Harri-

son nurtured, wept over, and kept faith in her publication. As years slipped by, she prayerfully developed the magazine to a position of unique respectability and genuine service to young people.

This first editor expanded the magazine to sixteen pages and later to twenty-four pages. In 1937, eight years after its inception, the *Lighted Pathway* was adopted as the youth journal of the Church of God. Mrs. Harrison was editor for nineteen years.

One of the unusual characteristics of the *Lighted Pathway* is that it has had only four editors during its forty-nine-year history. In 1948 Charles W. Conn became the second editor. Possessing natural journalistic ability,



HERITAGE

Pathway

a background of preparation, and a keen analytical mind, he guided the publication to an enviable position among religious magazines.

In 1952 Lewis J. Willis assumed the editorial responsibilities of the youth journal. Under his competent direction, this third editor expanded the ministry of the *Lighted Pathway* both in the church and outside. The periodical became symbolic of Christian youth and synonymous with Church of God Young People's Endeavor (later the Family Training Hour).

Outside the church this distinguished publication is now recognized by evangelical believers as being excellent in content, readability, and design. An expert in journalistic criticism commented, "Here is a publication which is poised on that slender fulcrum between quite good and terrific."

The *Lighted Pathway* has been a member of the Evangelical Press Association (EPA) for many years. That association is comprised of more than two hundred periodicals, and each year member magazines are judged on appearance, content, and how well they achieve their stated reasons for existing. On several occasions the *Lighted Pathway* has been given high honors.

For years the periodical was a family magazine emphasizing youth. During World War II, Mrs. Harrison was very effective in her ministry through its pages.



The circulation soared to over 100,000 as she appealed to both the soldier in the foxhole and the parents he had left behind.

In April 1971, the *Lighted Pathway* took a sharp turn toward youth. Its focus shifted from a general magazine emphasizing youth to being totally designed for young people. The deciding question for an article became, "Will youth read and be interested in this manuscript?"

It is not always easy to hold to such a requirement when different departments of the church want and need exposure. Nonetheless, the goal of the magazine is to minister to teenagers and young adults.

The progression of the *Lighted Pathway* from its genesis to the present testifies to the guidance of persons with a burning passion

to succor youth in the Lord Jesus Christ. Until I became editor, this consequential publication had possessed editors who not only had a genuine appreciation of God, of youth, and of the church, but were also endowed with keen journalistic acumen.

I recall how inadequate I felt when, in September 1962, I became its fourth editor. I also recall how eager I was to devote my energy and ability to the task of producing a magazine month after month that would minister significantly to the spiritual needs of young people.

The *Lighted Pathway* has been my pulpit monthly from which I have admonished youth over the last sixteen years. It has been my church where I fellowshiped with writers, both teenagers and adults. It has been revival-time where I have ministered to unconverted youth, pointing them to the Lord. To a large degree, the magazine has been my ministry, and I have enjoyed and been challenged by every month of it.

This is my last issue of the *Lighted Pathway*. Naturally, I leave the post with mixed emotions. It is a great deal like departing from a member of the family. When one has lived with a "person" for sixteen years, parting is not easy. I am being assigned to another post, and at this writing I do not know where I will serve. Nonetheless, I am sure that God will guide step by step.

My successor will be Hoyt E. Stone. He is an unusually fine person and a most capable writer. In fact, he is one of the very best writers in the church. I have no doubt but that he will be an excellent editor.

So, my dear reader, thank you for a long and warm association through the pages of this grand old magazine. I know you will continue to be blessed as you read its pages month after month.

The importance of young people and their contribution to the outstanding growth and dynamic, worldwide outreach program of the Church of God cannot be overemphasized.

God places importance upon them and their training in His Word, and we as a church should also give recognition to them. The Church of God has provided and continues to provide a very active program for you and your training in Christian service.

The first official youth organization of the Church of God—the Young People's Endeavor (YPE)—was born on October 24, 1929 (the date it was recognized by our denomination). Since then, youth and their activities have become an integral part of the Church of God, both in the saving of souls and in the molding of young people for Christian service.

Another important youth event took place in 1929: the founding of the *Lighted Pathway*—the official youth journal of the Church of God—by Mrs.

Alda B. Harrison. Sister Harrison was a gracious and dedicated lady who will always be remembered for her great work in the interest of young people. She served as founder-editor for nineteen years.

Today the *Lighted Pathway* continues to speak to you, the youth of our church, and deals with your needs in an effective manner. This magazine is prepared in a colorful and most appealing style.

The youth program of the Church of God has developed through the years until it is now second to no other denominational youth program. This development can be attributed, first of all, to a denomination and its leadership who have always been warm to the youth and receptive to their needs. Consequently, it has provided a very effective youth program. It has also made provision for the financial support of its youth program from the general church income.

However, for a general church youth program to succeed, more

must be involved than a program and funds. That "more" is strong spiritual and administrative leadership.

The Church of God has never been short of outstanding leaders in any department of the church. God has always provided the right leader at the right time. He has provided outstanding leadership for national and worldwide youth activities.

The year 1946 will always be remembered as an important year in the development of youth ministries in the Church of God. In this year, the first National Sunday School and Youth Director, the Reverend Dr. Ralph E. Williams, was appointed. The title of this position is now General Youth and Christian Education Director.

In that same year, the *first* National Youth Congress (August 27-29, 1946) was held in Birmingham, Alabama. This first youth congress has been followed by numerous similar meetings until now every region of the Church of God in the United

The Development of ***YOUTH*** ***MINISTRIES***

by O. W. Polen, Editor in Chief



States and many parts of the world has felt the impact of our youth ministries.

The programs the Church of God has provided for its young people have never been lacking in quality. They met the needs of the hour. However, this is not to say the youth programs have not been improved and enlarged through the years. Each national or general leader's administration has been characterized by youth programs of greater outreach and effectiveness.

One of the great youth outreaches of the Church of God is its camping program. This program has resulted in multiplied thousands of young people receiving spiritual experiences.

Beginning in the late 1940's, the Church of God youth camp program has enlarged until today in excess of 25,000 young people are found in summer camps each year. The spiritual results are phenomenal, and our youth also greatly benefit from the social and recreational programs of the camps.

The Church of God has not been slack in providing top quality literature for its youth in both the Sunday school and Family Training Hour (FTH). The only reason development of literature has not moved faster is because of the lack of funds to cover the high cost of production. However, the New Life Sunday school literature, costing multiplied thou-

sands of dollars in preparation, is now being used most effectively and most successfully in our Junior, Junior High, and Senior High Departments of the Sunday school.

Through the years literature has been provided for our Family Training Hour (formerly YPE). However, most of it was provided through other publishing houses whose literature for the most part met the standards of the Church of God. Now, we are presently engaged in providing our own Family Training Hour materials for the following age groups:

Peacefinders (ages 6-8)
Peace Cadets (ages 9-12)
Peacemakers (ages 13-19)

This new FTH material will be available in September 1979.

Perhaps one of our church's greatest and most far-reaching youth programs is the Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA). This program was born in 1957 and has grown continually. Last year, 1976-77, approximately \$480,000 was raised in the local churches to build a Bible school in Seoul, South Korea.

The nucleus of the YWEA emphasis is missionary education and involvement for young people. Each year the young people of the Church of God are challenged to join hands and hearts to consider the Great Commission and to support a project to advance the cause of Christ in

the world. The projects include Bible schools, churches, chapels, special equipment, and youth fellowship centers.

Another most effective youth program which was started in the early 1960's is Teen Talent. This program has become so effective until its impact is strongly felt throughout the entire denomination. It involves young people in a tremendous way and discovers talent (Bible, music, creative art, and creative writing) among our youth which otherwise may never be discovered.

The youth programs previously mentioned in this article are by no means all-inclusive. God, through dedicated youth leaders, has inspired other very successful youth programs such as National Youth Emphasis, the support of the Home for Children, college days, and others—all designed to challenge youth, to establish them in the faith, and to train them for effective Christian service.

If God chooses to delay the return of His Son I predict the Church of God will continue to develop its great youth ministries in a manner that will please Him, the church, and very importantly, you and our future young people.

Will you join with me in praising the Lord for the great youth ministries of the Church of God and for their development from the beginning until now?



Imagine getting a letter from an unknown lawyer informing you that you had inherited an estate. The letter would tell you that a wealthy relative you didn't even know had left you an inheritance. Would you be excited?

Well, it's true! You are an heir to a fabulous fortune. Hey, I'm not talking about land, houses, cars, money, or any of the other



ness Church of God young people in public schools sharing a dynamic testimony of Christ. You don't have to live in the past to have a factual faith. God wants you to be a member of this generation. It's OK for your faith to be wrapped in a twentieth-century package, as long as it's based on the first-century fact—Jesus Christ.

OUR RICH HERITAGE

by **Raymond Culpepper**

things we automatically think of when we learn we have been left a fortune. I am speaking of the fortune that is our rich heritage.

The first question you probably want to ask is, Who left us this fortune? That is an important question. If we are not careful, we will allow the sponsor of our inheritance to go unmentioned while we enjoy the fortune. Such positive, powerful, persuasive men as R. G. Spurling, Sr., R. G. Spurling, Jr., R. M. Evans, M. S. Lemons, F. J. Lee, S. W. Latimer, E. J. Boehmer, J. B. Ellis, T. S. Payne, and R. P. Johnson are just a few of the deceased who appear on the will that declares us heirs to a rich heritage.

Since none of us were around in the late 1800's and early 1900's, we were never privileged to know the faces and personalities that match these names. So the best way to acquaint ourselves with our rich heritage and the exciting people who gave it to us is to find out what they left us.

A *fact-based faith*. Don't let anyone kid you. These solitary figures who dot the landscape of our past were not a bunch of superstitious, old fogies dedi-

cated to fanaticism. They were relevant individuals in tune with their times. Sure, their dress was not like the dress of the '70s. Their transportation was not the transportation of the '70s. Their food was not the food of the '70s. But they were contemporary with their times. We would say they were "with it." I think they would want us to be "with it," too. They would not ask us to have faith without fact. They would require us to base our faith on the fact of the Bible. They would encourage us to live our faith in such a contemporary way that it would be contagious to our own generation.

As I travel from church to church, becoming acquainted with more and more young people, I am convinced that the only kind of faith we will accept today is a fact-based faith. This is more—much more—than just "faith of our fathers." We can't make it just because our forefathers made it. We must have a faith that is real enough to allow us to stand.

That is what I see when I wit-

A rich fellowship. It is important for you to feel accepted, to feel warmth, to feel trust, to feel security, to feel friendship, isn't it? Sure, it is!

Well, that is what fellowship in our rich heritage is all about. It is the kind of fellowship that will let us share our feelings with one another, talk about our hang-ups, and will give us a mental vacation from the stress and strain of our struggles.

Your smile, your laughter, your confidence, your openness are all ingredients that make up the beautiful rich heritage of our fellowship.

A bright future. Here we stand on the shore. The sunrise of a life is just beginning to peek over the ocean of opportunity. Today is brighter than yesterday, tomorrow more aglow than today. With the brightness, there comes a responsibility to represent the Lord well and to build up our lives in Him. There comes a message that we must be real, relevant, and righteous people and that we must pass it on. As we look into the future, we can be assured that God is with us and we need not fear any obstacles.

HERE'S SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:
**IF A COLLEGE DOES NOT
CHALLENGE AND EXCITE YOU,
IT CANNOT TEACH YOU!**

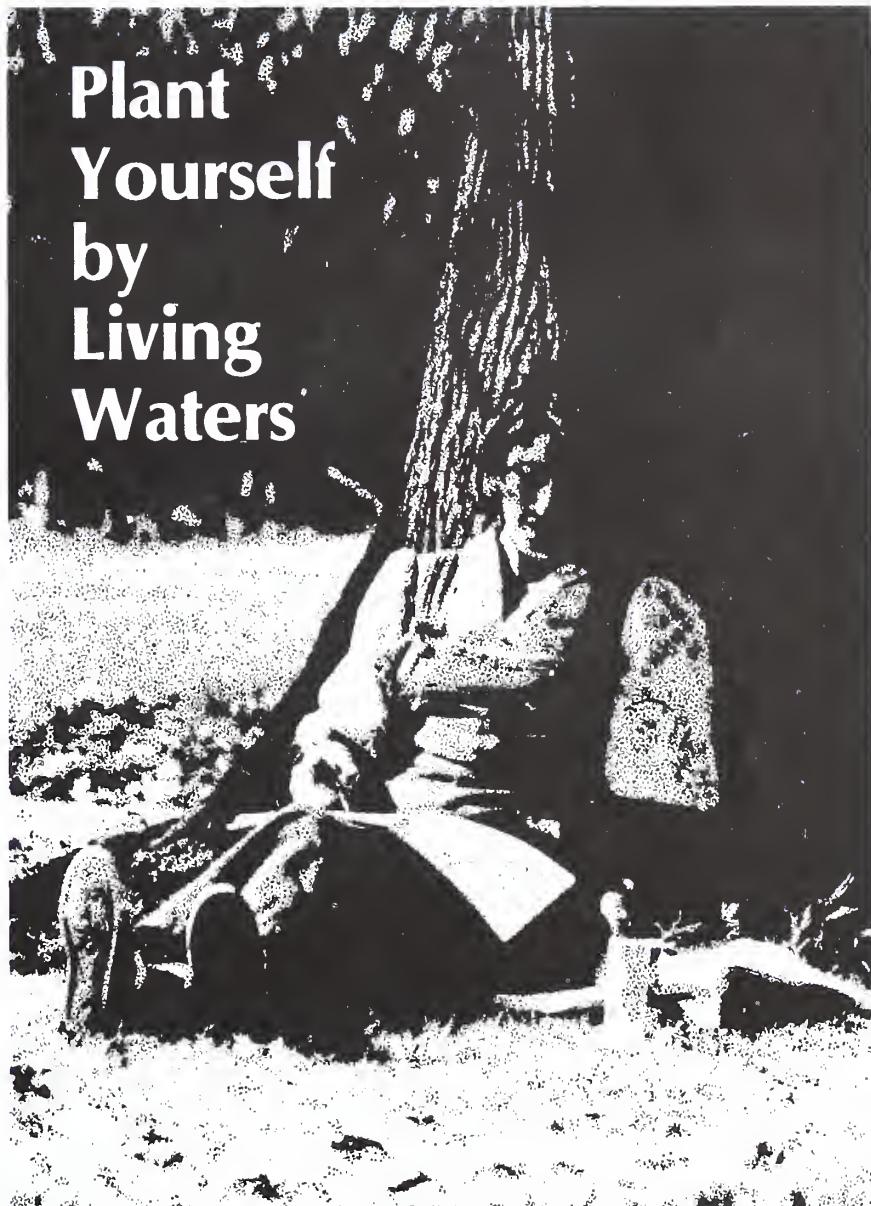
We cannot guarantee you four years of uninterrupted entertainment, but we can promise you a unique learning experience which will involve you fully in all the areas of human functioning: acting, thinking, feeling, living and learning. This is not to say that our Christian community will shelter you from pain or struggle, for it is out of such experiences that much of our growth arises. And yet, we do provide a foundation for learning and living in today's world.

We have on our campus a dedicated faculty for whom caring is not an occasional gesture, but a daily pursuit.

We are unique because our students are unique. Each student who passes our way is an individual expression of a common faith. And thus, while we are one in spirit, we are varied in style.

Perhaps you want to experience a college that challenges and excites you.

If that's your desire, here's ours:
That you come to



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Our Doctrinal HERITAGE

**by J. Ralph
Brewer**

Church of God history now reaches into the fourth and fifth generation since its birth in the hills of North Carolina and Tennessee. According to some church historians, this period of a church's history is often marked by apathy and departure from original tenets of faith. Thankfully, this is not true of the Church of God. The torch of faith has been passed from generation to generation, and present-day Church of God youth are proudly and joyfully holding it high. The flame of truth is burning brightly and the march of progress continues.

The first principle accepted by the Church of God was that we accept the whole Bible rightly divided and the New Testament as the only rule for government and discipline. That first principle has provided an unchanging and unshakeable foundation upon which to build a dynamic structure of faith and has been the means of shaping the destiny of the Church of God since its inception.

A remarkable fact about the Church of God is that its doctrinal position has remained basically the same throughout its history. Although it was not until the General Assembly of 1948 that an effort was made to officially formulate a statement of faith, the fourteen articles we now call the Declaration of Faith have always been the accepted doctrinal position of the church. The Declaration of Faith, though brief, has become the official expression of Church of God belief. It is scripturally sound, thoroughly fundamental, and positively Pentecostal.

A clear understanding of our Declaration of Faith and a genuine appreciation for it will help you, teenage friend, to grow spiritually and to cultivate a deeper commitment to the principles of God's Word. To understand God's Word is to value it; to value it is to believe it; to believe it is to live it; to live it is to know the full joy and abundant life it provides.

The Church of God Declaration of Faith appears

below, along with a brief statement regarding each article.

We Believe:

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.

Verbal inspiration means that the Holy Spirit moved upon holy men to write and gave them the things to say. Thus, God is the author of the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation. The Bible, therefore, is true, holy, eternal, without error, and totally trustworthy. (See 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21.)

2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

When we speak of the Trinity, we mean that God is one God but that within the unity of the Godhead, there are three coeternal and coequal persons. "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one" (1 John 5:7).

3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary; that Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.

The gift of Jesus Christ, God's Son, is the clearest and dearest revelation that God could ever offer of Himself to the world. The birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus together comprise the single most important event in human history. He is the focal point of all Scripture, the central figure of the Christian faith, and the only secure foundation upon which we can build our lives.

4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that repentance is commanded of God for all and is necessary for forgiveness of sins.

The problem of sin is as old as the Garden of Eden. It began with Adam and Eve when they violated God's expressed will and word. By nature, all men since Adam are sinners and the only route to forgiveness is through Jesus Christ (Romans 6: 23). Repentance is the key to the heart of God; and when we confess our sins, ask forgiveness, and turn away from our sins, God responds and forgives us. Through the work of His Holy Spirit, a dramatic and powerful transformation takes place in our heart.

5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

Justification is the legal aspect of God's provision for the repentant sinner. It is an act of God by which He declares through Jesus Christ that the sinner is no longer under condemnation. There is only one way out of the predicament of sin and Christ alone has provided the way. Through faith in the blood of Jesus, the sinner stands fully justified in God's sight. As someone beautifully described it "Just as if I'd never sinned" (Romans 3:20; 5:1, 8, 9; Galatians 2:16). Regeneration means "to be born again" or "born from above" (John 3:3) and involves the giving of new life. While justification removes the guilt of the past, regeneration changes our internal nature so that we are no longer servants of sin but of righteousness.

6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ, through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.

Sanctification is an act of God, by which He puts a pure heart in man, separates him from sin and gives him power over sin. God's plan for man not only involves forgiveness for sin, but a divinely imparted ability to live victoriously over sin. This is brought about through the work of sanctification.

7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.

Holiness is the fruit of regeneration and sanctification. It is the product of a changed life. Through the forgiveness of sins, the work of sanctification and the imparted righteousness of Christ, the Christian is able to fulfill the command of the Scripture to be "an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12).

8. In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.

The Church of God is not only a holiness church, it is a Pentecostal church. While we fully recognize and emphasize the great work of the Spirit in salvation and sanctification, we also believe there is another special work of the Holy Spirit—that of empowering the believer to effectively witness for Christ (Acts 1:8; Acts 2). This experience we refer to as the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Speaking with other tongues is the first outward sign of the Holy Spirit baptism. The primary purpose of tongues is to signify God's total and absolute control of the believer's life. Although speaking with tongues is the initial evidence of the Holy Spirit baptism, it is by no means the only evidence.

10. In water baptism by immersion and that all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Water baptism is the symbolic identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. It is never to be regarded as an option for the believer but as an obligation. While we do not believe water baptism makes saints out of sinners, we do believe that it is a necessary step of obedience for everyone who makes a profession of faith in Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19, 20).

11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.

Prayer for the sick and emphasis upon divine healing have always been an essential part of Church of God worship. We believe that Jesus Christ is a changeless Lord and that he responds to "the prayer of faith" today as much as He did 2,000 years ago. There is an abundance of Scriptural evidence, as well as many living miracles to support this powerful tenet of our faith.

12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.

The Lord's Supper (or Holy Communion) is a sacred rite not only in the Church of God, but throughout the Christian world. It was instituted by Jesus himself on the eve of His crucifixion as a reminder of the significance of His death. The fruit of the vine represents His blood which was shed to save us from sin. The bread represents His body which was broken for us.

Washing of the saints' feet is another sacred rite instituted by Jesus on the same occasion as the Lord's Supper. This rite is an act of Christian love and demonstrates a spirit of humility and obedience to Christ. Jesus made it quite clear that this was not to be a one-time occurrence, but an established practice among His disciples of every generation (John 13:1-5).

13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus —first, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air and, second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.

The Church of God believes in the personal, visible return of Jesus. The first phase of His coming is that of the rapture of the church, at which time the righteous dead will be resurrected and the living saints caught away to heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). This event is followed by a seven-year period called the Great Tribulation after which Jesus returns with His saints (the second phase), conquers the Antichrist (Revelation 19:11-21), binds and casts Satan into the bottomless pit (Revelation 20:1-3), and establishes a 1,000-year rule of peace on the earth (Revelation 20:4).

14. In the bodily resurrection; in eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

The righteous dead are resurrected at the coming of Jesus. But the unrighteous dead are not resurrected until the end of the 1,000-year reign (Revelation 20:5). The unrighteous will then be judged. Jesus said, "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal" (Matthew 25:46). Bodily resurrection of all people, with eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked, is strongly emphasized by Jesus in Luke 20:35, 36 and John 5:28, 29.

Yes, the young people of the Church of God are recipients of a vibrant and noble faith. It is a faith that is firmly rooted and grounded in the Word of God—one that rests upon the accuracy and authority of the Scriptures and one that can be applied to the experiences of everyday life. The Holy Spirit has carefully guided the Church of God; and its committed leaders, deeply sensitive to God's direction, have preserved a priceless doctrinal heritage which the young people of the Church of God are proud to embrace, defend, and perpetuate.

The believers in the time of David had a rich heritage. They spoke often of the ministry of Moses, Joshua, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They cherished landmarks and objects that reminded them of God's unselfish love and how He had protected them from the evil intentions of their enemies and prospered them with the "good things" of life. Many of them, however, neglected to personalize their heritage and to tie it to the future. As a result of this, they failed to keep on growing in the Lord and to be committed to His work.

On the other hand, David was able to bring his heritage into focus and to personalize it. He said in Psalm 16:6, "I have a goodly [or rich] heritage." As a result of his positive appraisal of his heritage, David had a personal respect for God's Word; he had a personal desire to do God's will; and he felt a personal responsibility to do God's work. David tied his heritage to the future and it sparked fruitful action.

Throughout this special National Youth Emphasis issue of the *Lighted Pathway*, the emphasis has been placed on "Our Rich Heritage." Now, it is time to personalize the heritage and to say "my rich heritage." For you to keep on growing in the Lord and to insure the continued growth of the Church of God, you must tie your heritage to the future.

You can tie your heritage to the future by looking at some prominent facts and provisions in the Bible and by relating them to your life and the future of the Church of God. YOUTH today represent the spirit, the force, and the faith of the church tomorrow. In shaping yourself to be a part of the heritage of the church in the future, I want you to look at three things:

LOOK AT GOD'S CALL

We are instructed in the Bible to walk worthy of the calling to which we have been called (Ephesians 4:1) and to be sure or certain about our calling (2 Peter 1:10). As a young person, you must know what God's calling is before you can be sure about it. You will find God's call in 2 Peter 3:9; it is a call to salvation—to repent, to believe, and to receive. God's call is to a new life in Jesus Christ. This new life is influenced by your heritage and it represents your hope for the future.

As we look at God's call—salvation—you will observe that it has two sides. Side one is the *position* side and side two is the *practice* side. The position side relates to what God has done for you—accepted you as a member of His family and extended family privileges to you. The practice side relates to what you are to do for others and your responsibility to perform family service. Both sides must be emphasized properly in order for you to grow consistently in Christlikeness.

The future of the Church of God depends on how you emphasize position and practice. You must guard and respect your position through productive church attendance, life-related Bible study, prayer, worship, and praise. You must stress practice through positive endeavors of witnessing, sharing, and supporting the Kingdom cause. This will help you tie your heritage to the future.

LOOK AT THE CHURCH

Christ is the head of the church. We are told in Ephesians 1:22, 23—"And hath put all things under

YOUR Heritage and the Future

Floyd D. Carey

General Director of
Youth and Christian
Education



his feet, and gave him [Christ] to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body." The church is a body and you are a member of the body (1 Corinthians 12:27). Through His actions, relationships, and meeting the needs of people, Jesus revealed the character of God (John 1:18). Through body-activities, the church ministering and meeting needs, you can help show the world the character of God as expressed by Jesus Christ.

The body-activities that I am referring to primarily relate to the practice side of salvation. Jesus met the needs of people—spiritual needs and physical needs. He helped the sick, the lonely, the poor, the outcast, and the hungry. You, as a member of the body, in cooperation and coordination with other body members, can represent Christ by meeting the needs of people. The church represents Christ in the world today and body activities that support the Great Commission show that the church is alive and well.

The future of the Church of God depends on how you emphasize and become involved in body activities. You must support a balanced church program and make sure that the church meets both the spiritual and physical needs of people. This will be especially true, if the Lord delays His coming, in relationship to your children and their needs. *No person is a nobody in Christ's body.*

LOOK AT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

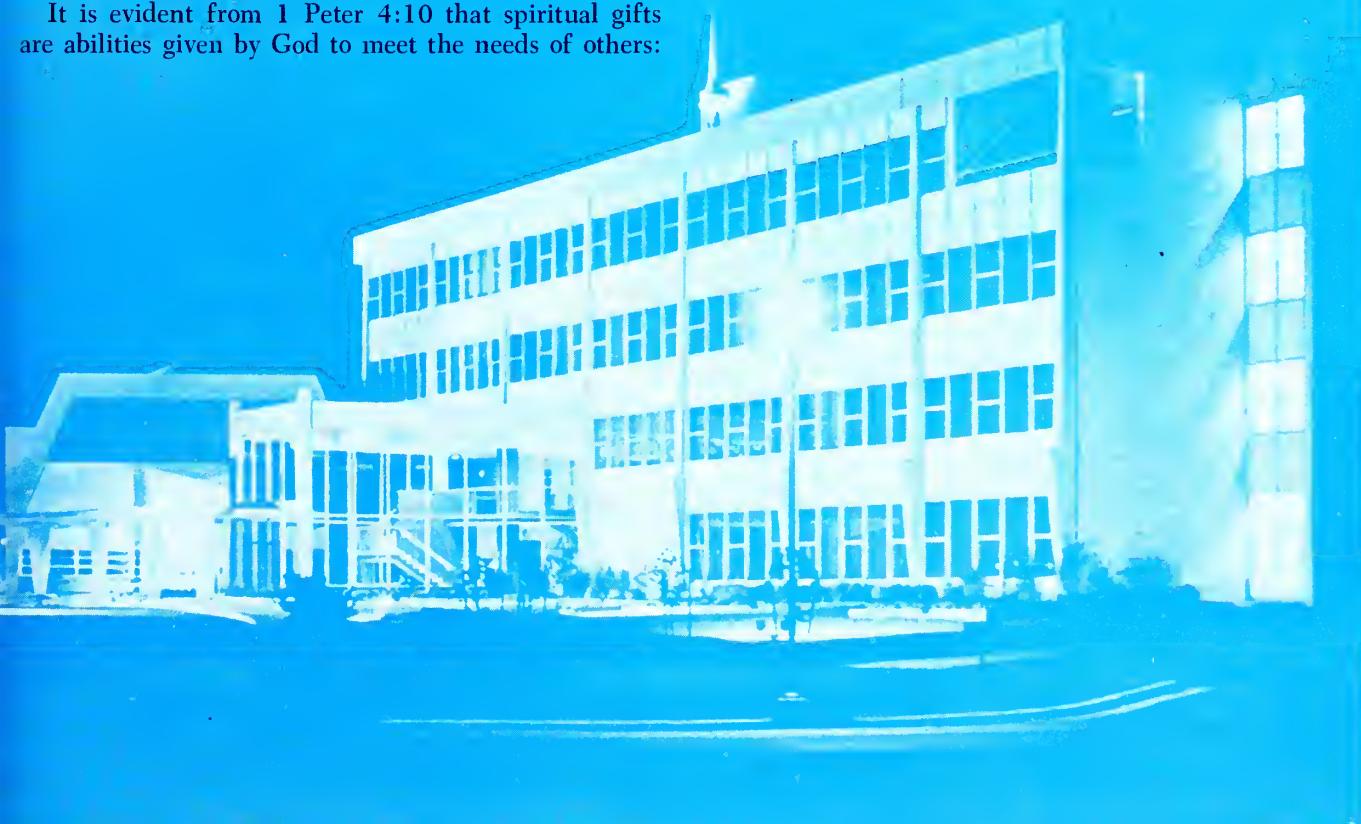
It is evident from 1 Peter 4:10 that spiritual gifts are abilities given by God to meet the needs of others:

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." Spiritual gifts are God's method of meeting peoples' needs through His followers. God has given you gifts and He has also allotted you the faith needed to use your gifts.

Seven categories of gifts are outlined in Romans 12:6-8: prophecy, service, teaching, exhorting, giving in liberality, leading, and showing mercy. Gifts are also set forth in 1 Corinthians 12:4-10. No one person has all the gifts listed. But all the gifts are present within the body—the church. It is God's will that spiritual gifts be discovered, developed, and demonstrated in doing the work of the church and in meeting the needs of people.

It is vital to the future of the Church of God that you recognize special abilities that God has invested in you. The process of recognizing special abilities will include praying for insight, listening to sermons, studying the Bible, talking with church leaders, and evaluating skills. The body (church) cannot be healthy and grow if each member does not function (minister) according to his gifts (abilities).

You have a rich heritage! Tie your heritage to the future and experience a complete and growing life in Jesus Christ.



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FALL REGISTRATION

Fall registration is Monday and Tuesday, August 28, 29, 1978. Classes will begin on Wednesday, August 30. The last day for fall registration will be September 8. Resident halls will open for returning students on Saturday, August 26. Freshmen orientation will begin Thursday, August 24. All freshmen are expected to be present. If you need more information concerning Lee College admissions, write: Dr. Stanley Butler, Dean of Admissions, Lee College, Cleveland, Tennessee 37311.

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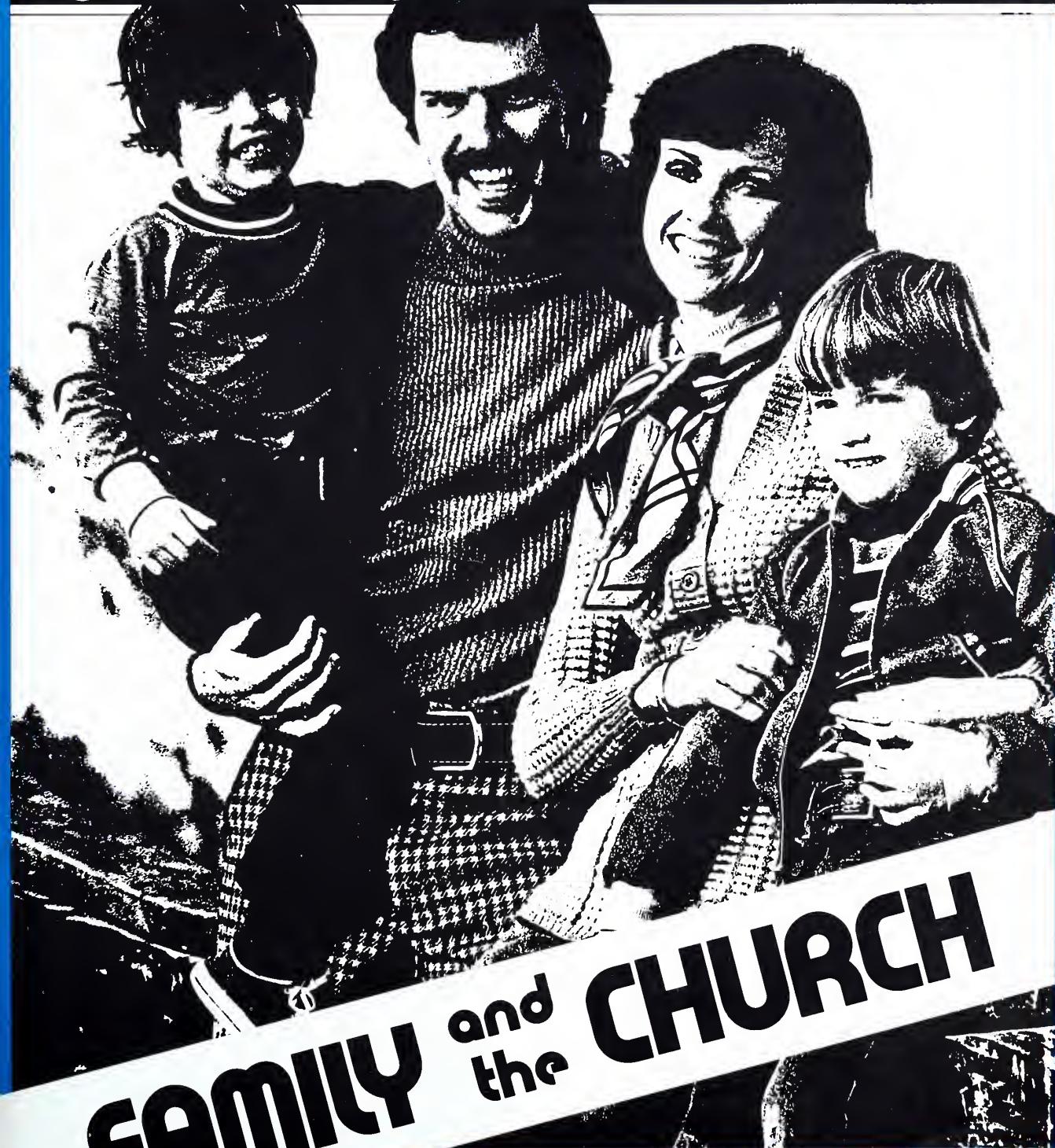
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NOT TO BE TAKEN
FROM THIS ROOM

Guiding Youth

Lighted Pathway

Vol.49, No.10



FAMILY and the CHURCH

H. Armstrong Roberts Photo



October, 1978

Volume 49, Number 10

CONTENTS

- 3 Family Prayers**
By Dottie Davenport
- 5 Family Crisis**
By Dr. Robert E. Fisher
- 8 Your Summit Conference**
By Russell J. Fornwalt
- 10 How's Your Tone?**
By Gloria Chisholm
- 12 Camp Meeting: Ohio Youth**
By Paul R. Bock
- 14 In Other Words . . .**
By Alan Cliburn
- 16 Guilt**
By Muriel Larson
- 18 Pathway Pointers**
- 20 Remembrance Roses**
By Dave Collins
- 22 Keynotes**
By Mary S. Morris
- 23 Youth World Evangelism Appeal**
- 25 Family-Life Inventory**
- 26 Call of the Master**
By Robert Frazier
- 27 Editorial**

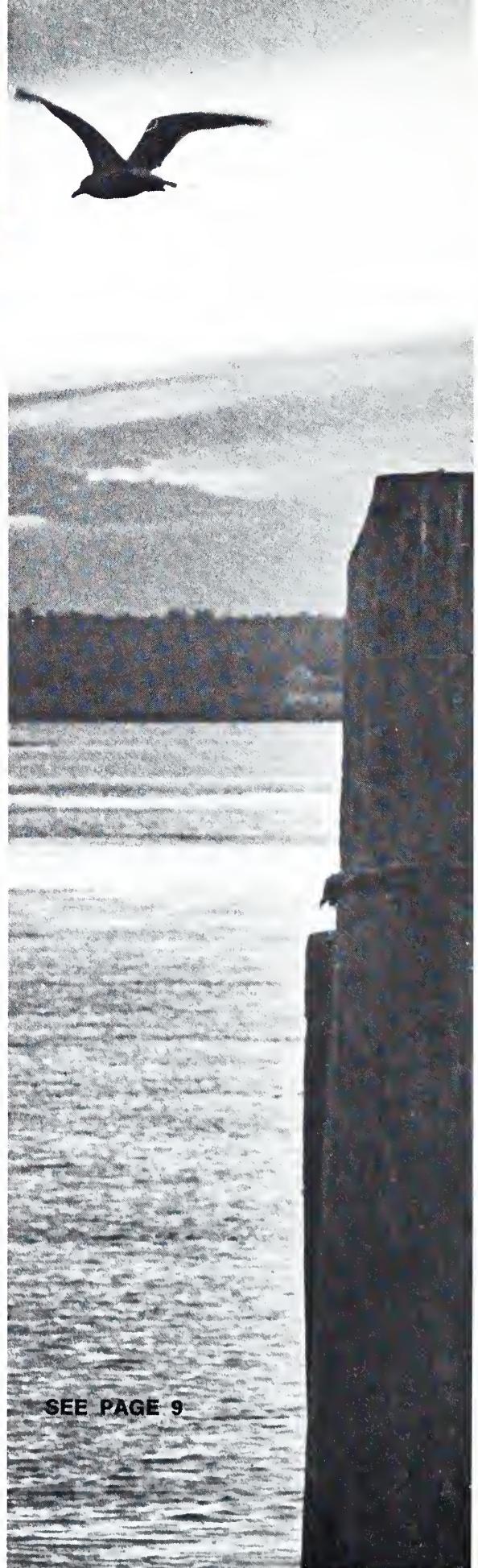
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SEE PAGE 9





FAMILY PRAYERS

by Dollie Davenport

Family prayer is part of my heritage. Some of my earliest childhood memories embrace the prayer time in our home. My dad was a firm believer that the day should begin and end by reading the Word of God and having family prayer.

When our home was blessed with two lovely children, Debbie and David, my husband and I tried many ways of conducting family worship. Some worked, and some didn't.

We began with a children's version of the Bible and some good books of Bible stories. We stressed from the earliest age that we should talk to God about everything that touches our lives. And that we did—everything from praying about a lost dog (he came home), to praying about a lost contact lens (we found it), to praying to know how a certain piece of pattern should fit (the outfit turned out beautifully), to praying for healing of our bodies.

Our son David often blessed us by talking to God in his everyday childhood language. After one family devotional in which

(CONTINUED)

the Scripture was read, "Whom having not seen, ye love" (1 Peter 1:8), we knelt to pray. David (age 5) prayed so sincerely, "And dear Jesus, it wouldn't matter what You looked like; I'd love You anyway."

Having a daily devotional thought and family prayer is good, but putting your words into action in your daily life is an absolute necessity if this prayer and Bible time is going to be meaningful to the family.

One night at church David almost doubled up in pain. We immediately thought of appendicitis. Rather than disturb the sermon, we slipped out quietly and went home. Before calling the doctor we laid David on the bed and prayed. Before we had hardly said, "Amen," he suddenly sat up and said, "Well, He's done it again!" (The Lord had healed him—it wasn't the first time.) Oh, to have the faith of a child!

After experiencing many changes in methods and practices of family prayer, I wish to offer the following suggestions:

1. Study your family schedule, set a definite time for family worship, and stick to it. TV programs and ringing telephones should not be allowed to interfere with your time of worship. Mealtime is a good time to worship as a family. It's regular and may be the only time when all members of the family are together. (Breakfast has always worked best for our family. We ask God's blessing upon our food, and then have our Scripture reading and prayer at the close of the meal.)

2. Choose materials on the age level of your children. This may include some of the beautiful Bible stories with sound effects that are available on tape. Though they are designed to teach children, adults enjoy them too.

3. Let each member of the

family participate. One may read the Scripture, another read or tell a Bible story, and another pray. If children are taught to pray while they are young, there will be little difficulty in getting them to participate when they are teenagers.

Start teaching them to pray by sentence prayers. Make suggestions as to special needs for prayer, like remembering a missionary on a different mission field each day, or a sick neighbor.

4. Teach your children to be thankful by using prayer times for just counting blessings and giving thanks—and no requests. In this affluent society, we need to teach our children never to take blessings for granted.

5. Avoid hypocrisy. Never hesitate to confess failures in family prayer. It helps our children to know we don't consider ourselves perfect, and they will be more apt to be sincere in their prayers.

This includes being honest in your prayers. Don't ask God to help your child make a good grade on a test when you know he hasn't studied. Teach your child that God expects us to do all we can; then He steps in and does the rest.

6. Teach your children that family prayer is needful, but it must never take the place of our individual prayer and Bible study. Remind them of this private worship time by providing a Bible by their bed for personal use.

7. Don't be afraid to experiment with new methods. A recording of a lovely hymn may be just what you need to set the atmosphere for family worship.

You may have all or part of the Bible on tape and may wish to use it at times. This is a good way to teach family members to participate in Bible reading by

following in their own Bible the reading of the Word on tape.

Try reading the Word in unison or responsively. Psalms are particularly good for this purpose. You may assign specific Bible verses to be looked up and discussed at a later period of family worship.

8. Go to your Christian bookstores. There are many helps there to assist you in making your family worship what it should be.

9. Don't get frustrated or discouraged if some system works well for a friend, but just doesn't work at all for you. There is no one "right way" for family worship.

10. Use times of testing or trials to teach your children that God's answer to our prayers is not always "yes." Admit to them that you don't understand what's going on; but one thing you do know is that it's for your good if you love Christ.

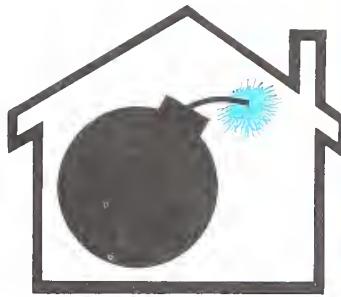
Our attitudes during such crises speak loud and clear to our children. Death won't seem so gloomy if we teach them what's in store for the Christian after this life.

11. Remember! A Christian home is one in which Christ is the center and where He is loved by each member of the family. When the family unites in prayer and worship, there is a binding link which is indestructible. When any members of the family are discouraged or tempted to be unkind or to give way to anger, they'll remember the vows made to Christ in the family circle, and thus be restrained.

This does not mean that difficulties will never arise and problems never present themselves. But where Christ is the Arbitrator, these problems tend to lessen, and only peace abides.

Isn't this worth working for?

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FAMILY CRISIS

The following statements are taken from the new book, *The Family and the Church* by Dr. Robert E. Fisher. This book is the Church Training Course text for 1978-79 and is also the official study guide for the National Family Emphasis, November 8-15, 1978.

DIVINE ORIGIN OF THE FAMILY

Sociologists and anthropologists have devised various theories concerning the origin of the family. The fact of the matter is that the family was God's idea—not man's. In the Genesis account of creation it is stated that in His divine wisdom God understood that it was not good for man to dwell alone, he needed a helpmeet, a companion; or, more specifically, someone to complete him. God performed the first marriage that was to be the foundation stone for the first family. It was God that brought Adam and Eve together and, in turn, created in them the wondrous possibility of physical as well as spiritual union.

FAMILY IN CRISIS It does not take an expert's evaluation to convince many family members that all is not well with the family. Ask the disillusioned couple who has recently experienced a life-shattering di-



Vision Staff Photo

vorce. Ask the stunned parents who have just learned that their son is on drugs or that their unmarried daughter is pregnant. Ask the harried teacher who is daily harassed by belligerent children reared in permissive homes. Ask the troubled pastor who almost daily shares the tragedy of another marriage dissolved and another home broken.

IMPACT OF TELEVISION The sad truth is that the sanctity of many homes has been violated by the profanity, violence, and perverted sex issuing from the television screen. Slowly but surely, in too many cases, moral values have been corrupted and ethical standards have been lowered as a result of the subtle influence of television.

Until there are some basic positive changes in television programming, the best safeguard a family has against the negative impact of this medium is to exercise strict control over family viewing hab-

its. The only viable alternative is to not own a set at all.

HYPOCRISY It is in the home **IN THE HOME** that the mask comes off—the real self is revealed. If Christianity works at all, it must work within the four walls of the home. It is good and even necessary to have a place to "let your hair down," to relax and be yourself. But if the pattern of life revealed in the confines of the home is negatively different from that displayed outside the home, serious damage is done to the spiritual character of family members. On the other hand, there can be no more powerful and instructive testimony of what Christ can do in a life than that demonstrated through harmonious family relationships.

VIOLATION OF GOD'S COMMANDS Since God instituted the family, He has also set

the guidelines for its successful operation. Just as it would be foolish to purchase an appliance from one manufacturer and then try to operate it with an instruction manual from another, so it is foolish to follow rules for family operation from any other guide than the Word of God.

CHIEF SOURCE OF INSTRUCTION Teaching is often thought to take place only in a formal setting such as a classroom. The fact is that most learning situations are informal and most happen in the home environment. Not only does the greater amount of time spent in the home influence learning, but also to be considered is the impact of the "teachers." Parents and other family members are generally the most significant persons in an individual's life. Regardless of what may be taught in the school or the church, if it does not coincide with the

teaching of the significant persons at home, it has little chance of being assimilated. This is why it is important for the church and the home to have similar educational goals and also a similar theology.

CHURCH SUPPORT FOR FAMILY The church must support, not undermine, the family. That is its responsibility both practically and scripturally. Fulfilling that responsibility is not an easy task. Some pastors and churches have met with great disappointment in trying to make an impact on the family. So many other organizations and agencies clamor for attention and seek to influence the family that the church seems sometimes not to have a chance. Regardless of the difficulty, if the church is to meet its scriptural obligation, it must be determined in its efforts to structure programs to positively affect family life.

PRIORITY OF FAMILY NEEDS Some pastors point with pride to a church bulletin that lists an activity for every night of the week. What that usually means is that the church is guilty of fragmenting families by keeping some member of the family engaged in a church activity every night of the week. If a family wants to be faithful to the program, there is often not one evening left for the family members to be together.

PROMOTION OF FAMILY WORSHIP Preparation for worship in the sanctuary begins in the home. Worship on Sunday with the Body becomes so much more meaningful when coupled with family worship that has taken place throughout the week. As the church guides the family in this vital aspect of spiritual development, it adds immeasurably to the participation and the

spontaneity of worship in the sanctuary.

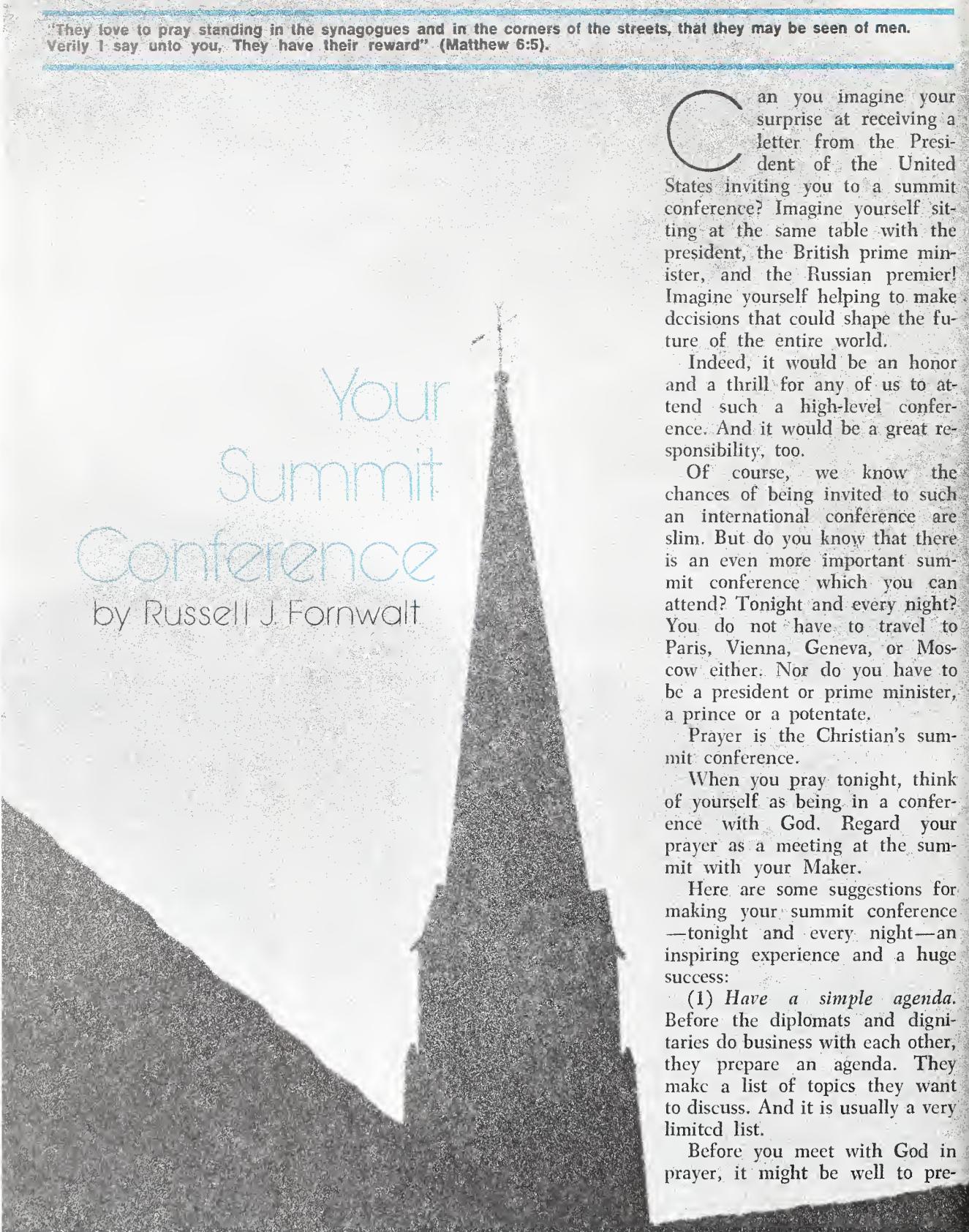
FAITHFULNESS IN CHURCH ATTENDANCE Families that can be counted on for regular attendance are a joy to the pastor and an inspiration to the entire church. Despite the emphasis from growth campaigns, the admonitions of the pastor, and a host of other devices (even gimmicks) designed to promote church attendance, the primary motivation must come from the home. When scheduling conflicts are resolved, obstacles removed, and proper priorities set, church attendance becomes a natural and enjoyable habit of family life.

BEHAVIOR IN CHURCH Disorder in the house of God is physically distracting and spiritually debilitating. It destroys the sacred atmosphere that is absolutely necessary to true worship. It also effectively isolates those

who cause it from receiving any good thing from God. While sometimes adults are guilty of disorder, it is generally the young people and children who consciously or unconsciously disrupt the service by their behavior. According to the Scripture, the parents are responsible for the conduct of their children in the house of God (1 Samuel 3:13).

LOYALTY TO CHURCH AND PASTOR It should be a cardinal rule in every Christian home that there is never a negative word spoken about the church or the pastor. That is not to say that church problems or personalities are not discussed, but it is to say that these should never be discussed in a critical and nonconstructive manner. Parents do not realize the psychological and spiritual damage that can be done when they openly attack the church and its leaders or when they allow their children to do so.

"They love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward" (Matthew 6:5).



Your Summit Conference

by Russell J. Fornwalt

C an you imagine your surprise at receiving a letter from the President of the United States inviting you to a summit conference? Imagine yourself sitting at the same table with the president, the British prime minister, and the Russian premier! Imagine yourself helping to make decisions that could shape the future of the entire world.

Indeed, it would be an honor and a thrill for any of us to attend such a high-level conference. And it would be a great responsibility, too.

Of course, we know the chances of being invited to such an international conference are slim. But do you know that there is an even more important summit conference which you can attend? Tonight and every night? You do not have to travel to Paris, Vienna, Geneva, or Moscow either. Nor do you have to be a president or prime minister, a prince or a potentate.

Prayer is the Christian's summit conference.

When you pray tonight, think of yourself as being in a conference with God. Regard your prayer as a meeting at the summit with your Maker.

Here are some suggestions for making your summit conference—tonight and every night—an inspiring experience and a huge success:

(1) *Have a simple agenda.* Before the diplomats and dignitaries do business with each other, they prepare an agenda. They make a list of topics they want to discuss. And it is usually a very limited list.

Before you meet with God in prayer, it might be well to pre-

pare an agenda. Do not think it necessary to talk about or pray for everyone and everything. Concentrate on pressing problems. If you are troubled with a wrong emotion, such as envy, greed, hatred, anger, or revenge, you might very profitably devote your entire summit conference to just that one item. Later you might devote other meetings to such matters as marriage, money, employment, a new home, physical health, or peace of mind.

Imagine world leaders trying to solve all the problems of the Middle East, Greece, Turkey, Cuba, the Congo, Korea, and Vietnam at just one summit meeting! Or, imagine them getting together without any prepared agenda!

Take a tip from them. Prepare for your high-level conference with God.

(2) *Be a good listener.* Of course, delegates to important meetings must be good talkers. But they must be even better listeners.

Do not think that you must do all the talking. Give God a chance. "In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength" (Isaiah 30:15). Or, in the words of the Psalmist, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

(3) *Get to the point.* In your high-level conference with God, you will accomplish much more by saying it right out. "Use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking" (Matthew 6:7).

Use simple words. God is not impressed with flowery phrases or pious platitudes. What counts most is your sincerity as you



Rohn Engh Photo

pray. Speak with God just as you would talk over a question or problem with your doctor, lawyer, accountant, teacher, employer, or supervisor.

(4) *Do not demand.* "Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him" (Matthew 6:8). Do not dictate or tell God how to conduct His business. Do not demand and, indeed, do not expect God to make a certain person love you, give you a certain job, help you get a raise or win the sweepstakes, or regulate the weather. It is best to pray for "right" action. "*Thy will be done.*"

Our Father knows best.

An elderly woman was fond of porcelain figurines. She asked God to give her the largest collection of figurines in the world. A friend passed away, willing her

two hundred or more cats, dogs, elephants, and others. But with the inheritance came problems of taxes, insurance, storage, cleaning and dusting, and the cost of display cabinets. She inherited plenty of headaches. So, be careful just what you pray. You might get it.

Do not demand that God change the attitude of your wife, your husband, your employer, your parents, or any one else. Ask for help in changing yourself, your own feelings, your personal attitudes. Once a change has come in you, you will notice a change in everyone and everything about you. Pray for the virtue of understanding rather than simply to be understood.

(5) *Watch your motive.* Most of us ask God for many things. But whether we get what we ask is going to depend upon our motives. Wanting material wealth merely to flaunt it in the faces of friends or to inflate personal ego is not the purest of purposes.

Jesus had much to say on the subject of motives. When speaking about the hypocrites he said, "They love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward" (Matthew 6:5).

Ask God to help you establish right motives. Affirm over and over again, "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake" (Psalm 23:3). You will find that when your purposes are pure, you are in those paths of righteousness.

Remember, prayer is a summit conference with God. Make sure that as you meet God, the Highest, He meets the highest in you.

When I lived at home, Mother constantly told me to watch my tone of voice. I'd retort that I didn't know what she was talking about. I hadn't said anything wrong. But inside, I really did know.

The words I'd spoken weren't particularly disrespectful, but what I felt in my heart came out loud and clear through the tone of voice. Since I wasn't a Christian, I found myself using that tone often. I was living only for myself and I didn't care whether she liked the sound of my voice or not.

I'd like to introduce you to some acquaintances of mine. Perhaps they will sound familiar.

Freddie Facetious. This guy thinks he's bestowing a real privilege on anyone he talks with. He gives cute answers to questions. He answers a question with a question. His sentences are short. His words are strung out twice their normal length, and he thinks himself clever.

Melvin Mumbler. First you have to get Melvin to talk. Then you can't hear or understand him. It's obvious he'd rather be left alone. Sometimes

Melvin finds it absolutely necessary to talk—like when he's home alone and the phone rings. But he doesn't know where anyone is or when they'll be home. The main sound you hear is Melvin's breathing. When he does talk, his lips hardly move and his words run together.

Susie Snapit. Susie reminds you of an alligator. Her mouth snaps open and shut rapidly. Her words are sharp. She's irritable and tense. Before you finish talking, she cuts you off with a short answer.

Leo Loudmouth. Leo thinks everyone is deaf and that he's the only one on the right soundtrack. His yelling wears on your nerves. It makes no difference if you're standing beside him, he bellows as if you were on the other end of a football field. You get the impression he's mad at you. Maybe he is. But I wouldn't advise you to ask him.

Irma Impatience. If she'll stand still long enough to talk, you're lucky. When you talk with Irma, you feel she's itching to get away. If you don't answer immediately, she's on a different subject. Her

tone implies you are taking too much of her time. She'd rather be somewhere else, talking to someone else.

I could probably introduce you to a few more, but I'm sure you get the point. It's amazing how much a person's tone of voice reveals.

What attitude comes through when you talk?

If you have a tape recorder and would like to find out, have someone tape your conversation when you're not aware of it. Play it back and listen to how you sound. You can change your tone, once you become conscious of how it sounds.

The Bible speaks on this subject:

"Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Colossians 4:6).

"Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones" (Proverbs 16:24).

Your words can last or be lost, according to your tone. Just as you choose the tone, you can likewise change. If you choose to do so.

Everett C. Johnson Photo

HOW'S YOUR TONE?

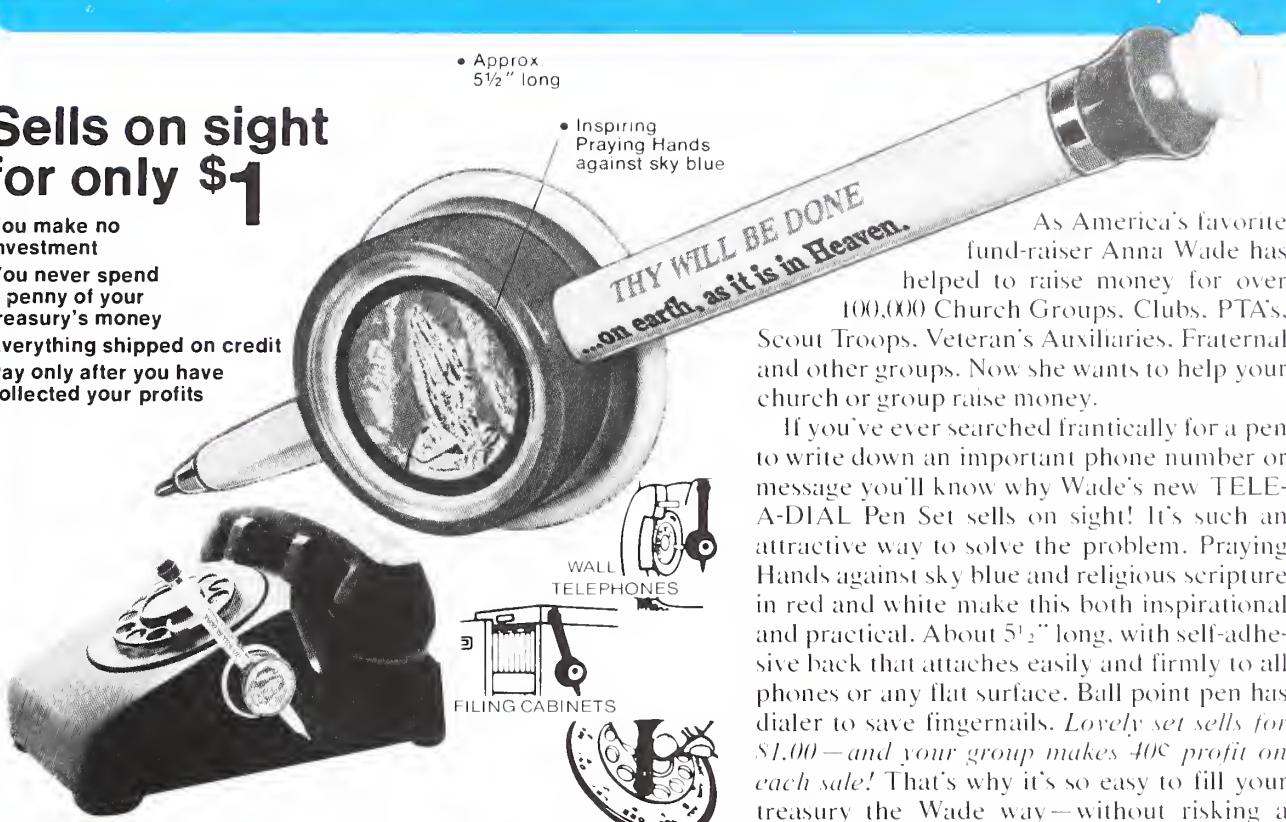
by Gloria Chisholm



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Left to right: Pastor John Richardson, Marty Sutton

CAMP MEETING: OHIO YOUTH

by Paul R. Bock

Camp meetings excite young people. They get totally involved. Perhaps it's this that makes camp meeting a continuing success in the Church of God.

Southern Ohio believes in incorporating its youth in the total camp meeting picture. "The success of our camp meetings can be largely attributed to the youth," states Pastor John Richardson of Milford, a member of the State Council. "Youth are a vital and a beautiful part of the Church of God."

"Camp meeting helps to bring young people closer to God," claims Tim Taulbee of Hartwell. And Rick Hocker of Richmondale says, "They help unite the youth."

The presidents of two Church of God colleges expressed strong feelings concerning the involvement of youth in camp meetings. Dr. Charles Conn of Lee College said, "Camp meetings help to satisfy the spiritual needs of our youth." And West Coast Bible College president Horace Ward put it this way, "There can be no revival in the church unless there be a youth revival; youth are at the forefront of the church."

Thirteen-year-old Cheri Douglas of Dent was one of hundreds who had "spiritual happenings" at the Southern Ohio Camp Meeting. She said she had something new in her heart. She felt cleaner, closer to God. Encouraged to do right.

Fellowship among the youth is one of camp meeting's great

attractions, according to Diana Davis. It gives all something in common. A place to worship freely with no inhibitions.

A Kids Krusade was held simultaneously during the Southern Ohio Camp Meeting. It was conducted by Randall and Cheryl Bailey of Princeton Pike, who devote full time to this unique ministry, taking Kids Krusades on campaigns throughout the country.

The Baileys used puppets, sang different songs and told original stories. There was much laughter, shouts of merriment and many oohs and ahs from the ninety children who attended each service.

The Princeton Children's Choir, under the direction of David Sampson, sang at two of the Krusade services.

Our General Director of Youth and Christian Education Floyd D. Carey is, quite naturally, a strong supporter of youth involvement in camp meetings.

He says, "God wants young people in an unusual way in these last days. . . . God is preparing young people for the harvest call."

At a youth banquet during Southern Ohio's camp meeting, the General Director also told teenagers: "You need a dream to sustain you. A dream to live for. You need to have authority with God, to work and to grow. Then you will be able to handle the pressures of life. . . . Prepare yourself a plan of action. Hold to your convictions."

As he spoke to the youth, it was easy to detect Brother Carey's warm love for young people. "Be number one for the glory of God," he urged. "You are a person of worth and value. Have faith in yourself. In Christ, you can do all things!"



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IN OTHER WORDS...

by Alan Cliburn

The young people were really excited. Joe had given his heart to Christ on the last night of a weekend retreat. Everyone had been praying for Joe. It was the perfect finish to a great weekend.

Next day, as the old bus chugged down the mountain, the kids sang and laughed and talked to Joe.

"Hey, man," Freddy said, "what does it feel like to be a Christian?"

Joe grinned. "I feel like a

whole new guy." Then he was more serious. "But I don't know too much about Christianity, except that Jesus now lives in my heart. You'll have to help me."

Everybody started talking at once, tossing in advice and

suggestions for growing in Christ. Joe couldn't understand a word, and it was so noisy that the bus driver finally began honking the horn.

When they quieted down, Rick made an announcement. "I'm sure Joe appreciates your interest, but we'd better talk one at a time."

Andy's hand shot up. "A new Christian should start studying the Bible right away, Joe. A group of us guys have Bible study every Thursday night at my house. You're welcome to come."

"I'd like to, Andy," Joe replied. "Thanks."

"And Christian fellowship is real important," Cathy said. "Besides our Sunday activities, we have parties and other things on weekends. You're certainly invited to all of these."

"I'll come," Joe promised.

"You can learn a lot from Pastor Fraser's sermons," Freddy said.

"And you can grow in Christ through service to others," Joan said. "Like helping with missionary projects and the programs that we have at the hospital."

"Anything else?" Joe wanted to know.

"Yeah, you can tell your friends about the change Christ has made in your life," Jerry replied.

It was suddenly quiet on the bus. Everyone looked at each other, then back at Joe. "I guess that's all," Rick decided. "And believe me, Joe, if any of us—"

"Hold it right there," the bus driver, who was also a Sunday school teacher, interrupted. "You've forgotten one of the most important things in a Christian's life."

"We have?" someone questioned. "What?"

It was quiet again.

"Do you mean prayer?" Joe asked.

"Prayer!" Rick repeated. "Of course! Thanks, Mr. Bernard."

"I prayed last night when I accepted Jesus as my Savior," Joe said. "But I didn't really know how."

"It's easy," Andy offered. "Prayer is just talking to God."

"Well, it's not quite as casual as that," Cathy said. "He's special, so you talk to God in a special way."

"What do you mean?" Freddy asked. "Sure, God's special, but I talk to Him the same way I talk to anyone else, except I don't kid around."

"Freddy's right," Joan said. "You don't have to make a formal ritual of prayer, Joe. You can pray anytime and anywhere."

"Sure," Rick added. "It can be a simple 'I thank Thee for . . .'"

"Come off it, Rick," Andy said. "Don't give Joe that 'Thee' and 'Thou' bit."

"Andrew Ravenscroft!" Cathy said. "How could you be so sacrilegious. Especially in front of a new Christian?"

"He's not being sacrilegious," Freddy defended. "There's nothing spiritual about words like 'Thee' and 'Thou.'"

"There isn't?" Joe asked.

"But in the Bible . . .," Rick began.

* * *

Sounds confusing, doesn't it? And if you've grown up in the church, it may come as a

**"FREDDY'S RIGHT," JOAN SAID.
"YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE A
FORMAL RITUAL OF PRAYER, JOE.
YOU CAN PRAY ANYTIME AND
ANYWHERE."**

shock to hear that Andy and Freddy are right. There is no special significance in using words such as "Thee," "Thou," and "Thy" when you pray.

Jesus Christ neither used nor advocated using words foreign to everyday conversation. Christ spoke largely to simple people, using words and illustrations, and He spoke in common language. If He were walking the streets of our towns today, He would surely say "you" and "your," not "thee" and "thou."

The important thing was what Jesus had to say, not how He said it. The same is true of your prayers.

The King James translation of the Bible is written in Old English. Many people inevitably assume that this was actually the way Christ spoke. For many, including ministers, use of these Old English words has become a habit.

Does it matter?

Of course not, so long as the prayer is sincere and your heart is honest. If you remember the purpose of prayer is to confess your sins and needs to God and to thank Him for His many blessings, words themselves are unimportant.

One negative aspect of using outdated words, however, is that a nonbeliever might automatically classify Christianity as being old-fashioned like the words. They may never give themselves a chance to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Also, some people get so involved with the mechanics and with the special words of prayer that they forget all about communication.

Try praying in today's language. God knows what's happening and He will understand just fine.



prayed, he found peace with God, and with himself.

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. . . . Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. . . . Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation (Psalm 51:1, 2, 10, 12).

The Lord Jesus is able to forgive sins. When He walked this earth He proved it by heal-

GUILT

"As a matter of fact, the Bible gave the answer to the guilt problem thousands of years ago."

by Muriel Larson

Psychiatrists are continually faced with what to do about guilt in the lives of their patients. Many are plagued with stinging consciences. Others feel guilty about small offenses or thoughts they have entertained.

Some psychiatrists try to explain guilt away and in a few cases they may have a bit of success. But with most cases all they succeed in doing is burying the guilt temporarily or in pinning the blame on others.

Guilt feelings come from the conscience which God has given all human beings (Acts 24:16). What, then, can be done about this problem?

One psychiatric leader, Hobart Mowrer, developed a new approach. Believing that neurotic patients suffer from moral failure, he taught what is called "integrity therapy," a procedure by which people are encouraged to take the consequences of what they do instead of blaming their troubles on others. Mowrer believes that future treatment of emotional illness will take guilt, confession, and atonement seriously.

As a matter of fact, the Bible gave the answer to the guilt problem thousands of years ago. Perhaps no one sinned more flagrantly than King David. But when he

ing bodies at the same time. He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

It is not God's will that people be burdened with their sins. He died for our sins. In Him is forgiveness for all who repent and accept His sacrifice as full atonement.

For those of us who know Him, it is His will that we confess our faults and failures to Him and thus keep the avenue of communication open. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Regular application of this principle will keep us right with God. It will clear our minds and free us from guilt.

Stress can squeeze years off your life if you don't know how to handle it.



The problem with stress is not how to get rid of it. It's a part of life. And it's not even all bad. The real problem with stress is how to recognize it and control it. So it doesn't control you.

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You can recognize stress by heeding the warnings of your body and emotions. Frustration. Anger. Hostilities that build up. Heavy pressures of responsibility time demands and conflict. Headaches, insomnia, muscle tension.

The key to handling stress is learning. Learning to air your feelings in constructive ways, to train your body to relax, to repair a lifestyle before you're faced with expensive medical repairs. You have to learn what your stresses are and the best ways for you to deal with them.

But they must be dealt with. Because the longer you remain in the grip of stress, the more crushing—and costly—its effects.

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Church of God Leaders Share With Christian Youth

Floyd D. Carey, General Director of
Youth and Christian Education



Kenneth Harvell is director of the Department of Business and Records. He has served the church in numerous capacities and has always displayed great love and respect for young people. He has spoken at youth camps and special youth functions, and he has a deep insight on youth needs and problems.

WHEN YOU WERE A TEENAGER, DID YOU FEEL FREE TO SEEK HELP AND GUIDANCE FROM WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL CHURCH?

During my teenage years, it seemed as though most of the personal guidance given in a local church was the responsibility of the pastor. Young and old alike revered and respected God's servant; therefore, they looked to him for proper counsel and guidance. I do, however, have very fond memories of some dedicated Sunday school teachers, Family Training Hour workers, and others who were compassionate, warm, and willing to listen to my

problems. Yes, there are those special members that God has placed in the church who are sensitive to the Holy Spirit and are willing to give proper help and guidance to our teenagers and to those newborn babes in Christ. Thank God for these dedicated Christians.

IN WHAT WAYS CAN YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY FORM A POSITIVE ATTITUDE ABOUT LIFE AND LIVING FOR THE LORD?

I grew up in the Church of God. Yet, at times, it was very difficult to have the right attitude about Christian living. I was led to believe that as a young Christian I would never have another evil thought, say an evil word, do an evil deed, or even be tempted. When I fell short of this goal, I felt backslidden and hopeless. I was actually miserable trying to live for God, because I felt I was falling far below the standards of the older Christians. I found peace when I later discovered how to overcome this negative attitude. Jesus said in 1 John 2:1, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." Jesus admonishes us not to sin; but if we do, we can confess to Him and be forgiven. Be positive in your attitude and stand for God. Do not let the devil tell you that because of some slight mistake, human er-

ror, or temptation you are lost. If you are a Christian, even though you may stumble along the way, ask God's forgiveness; then lift up your head and go forward in the name of Jesus Christ. You will immediately discover that life is worth living and that it is worth living as a Christian.

ARE GOD'S POWER AND PROVISIONS AVAILABLE TODAY FOR CHURCH OF GOD YOUNG PEOPLE?

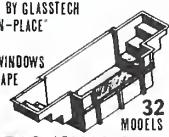
The Bible says in Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." This means the power that was exercised by the triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Ghost) when this world was set in motion, when the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea on dry ground, when the fire fell on Mt. Carmel and consumed the sacrifice proving Jehovah to be the true and living God, when Jesus came forth out of the grave, when the blind were healed, when deaf ears were opened, when the lame walked, and when the woman at the well was forgiven—this same power is still real and effective in today's world.

Not only is the power available, but God will still provide the needs of His children. It seems there is an abundance of "things" in today's world for us to desire and enjoy. God's supply house of "spiritual things" has never been depleted. He has promised to "supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). But there is one condition we often overlook: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). Put God first, make Him Lord of your life, and you will find an abundance of His power and provisions available to you.

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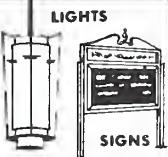
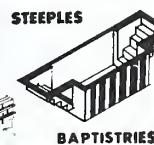


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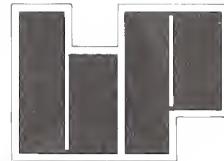
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Remembrance

Roses

by Dave Collins

It was during the summer that Mother paid us her final visit. Her hands shook slightly, her walk was slower, and her eyes were tired. Yet, my children did not seem to notice. They always looked forward to their grandmother's visits and not anything could disturb those happy days.

Only a few weeks before her scheduled visit, we had moved into our recently completed home. I felt somewhat proud as I had done much of the designing and building myself. The house was uniquely styled, intentionally different from others nearby. Mother was delighted and quite impressed. Yet, I had a feeling—slight as it was—that I had left something out. Finally, after constant

prodding, Mother offered a suggestion.

"I love this house of yours, David, but I do so wish you would put in just a few flowers. You always admired mine so much. How pretty some roses would look in back of the fence!"

I gazed at the small woman before me—a woman who so seldom made even a slight request—and I gently covered her hands with my own.

"I'll see about the roses first thing in the morning," I said. "But *you'll* have to supervise the planting while you're still here with us."

The words tumbled out, their double meaning revealing the secret we had been sharing. Mother smiled. It was as if she had been freed of a great inner burden.

We planted the roses the next

H. Armstrong Roberts Photo

Harold M. Lambert Photo



HAD SHE INTENDED THE ROSES TO HELP EASE THE SADNESS?

day. The event turned into a family project, with Mother offering hints every step of the way.

"Grandma, I can hardly wait to see the roses bloom next year!" my youngest daughter said. "I hope they're pretty."

"Roses have always been my favorite," Mother smiled. "I think they have more beauty and strength than any other flower."

In early spring Mother slipped away peacefully, dying in her sleep. I felt her loss deeply, and I worried about the loneliness the children would feel when she would not come for her visit.

One summer morning I

weeded the soil at the base of the rosebushes. My daughter stood silently behind me. Stepping forward, she touched one of the dew-flecked roses.

"I wish Grandma could come and visit us again," she said softly. "But if she can't, I'm glad we have her roses. They're so beautiful and strong, just like she said they would be."

Had Mother known? Had she intended the roses to help ease the sadness? I don't know. But the beauty and strength of these living flowers—these remembrance roses—is one more reminder of the beauty and strength of a truly remarkable woman.

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Keynotes

Mary Morris, an accomplished musician, is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland. She is the wife of a Church of God pastor.

by Mary S. Morris



AFTER TEEN TALENT—WHAT THEN?

The Teen Talent Competitions are over. All the hard work, practicing, memorizing, and sweating are behind you. It is now time to stop, take stock of your accomplishments, and see just how far you have come in your pursuit for musical excellence. One thing is for sure: you have met the challenge and have grown musically!

At this stage you probably don't want to hear or perform your Teen Talent selection again for the rest of your life! Remember, however, that your selection was so thoroughly learned and rehearsed that your brain will probably never forget it. After participating in several Teen Talent

Competitions, just think of how many well-learned pieces you will have for instant recall at the ripe old age of twenty!

Think back to before the Teen Talent Competition, about how you were probably a nervous, faltering musician. In just a few short months you have become a "seasoned" performer! Think back to your nervous moments before you went out to perform; but you performed anyway! Did a memory slip occur? You still completed the performance! Maybe an unplanned "squeak" marred your otherwise flawless performance; but you hung in there! Did you know these "problems" haunt performers no matter how

good they are? That's nice to know, isn't it?

The important thing is that after it is all over, you realize that it was the best you could do—that at this stage in your musical development you could not do any better. Isn't it wonderful that God does not require unattainable perfection on our part—just our *best*? Whether you were a local participant or a national winner, you won a great victory. Why? Because you got up there and did it! How? Through planning, preparation, and prayer! So? So pick yourself up and start training for the next challenge God sends your way.

Along with your daily devotional and prayer life, you should develop your strategy for further musical development. Review carefully the comments that the judges gave you on your evaluation sheets. Thank God for the positive comments; and set about, with your teacher, to work on the negative ones. Don't forget that you must keep your strong musical skills honed and practiced, or you will lose them. It takes constant, consistent effort to keep yourself in prime, performing condition.

Does this sound like an admonition to athletes? Well, it is meant for *musical* athletes! In a recent issue of *Newsweek*, the famed pianist Vladimir Horowitz was shown chatting with baseball pitchers. What did they have in common? They were comparing notes about keeping their hands in good physical condition. After all, their hands literally earned them their livelihoods!

So get to work! Remember that if you improve as much in the next two years as you did for this last competition, you will have truly achieved. Nothing compares with receiving evaluation sheets, full of superlatives—confirming the fact that you are, indeed, an excellent musician!

YOUTH WORLD EVANGELISM APPEAL

Disciples in Action

The distinguishing characteristic of a disciple is outlined in John 13:35. Jesus said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Love demonstrated toward other believers that you personally know, and also love displayed to people around the world who are unconverted whom you do not know—this identifies one as a disciple.

Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA) is Church of God young people in action—disciples in action. It is a program of love designed to take the gospel into all the world.

The project for 1978 was an International Church in New York City. Church of God young people, thank you for responding

to this challenge. Because of your love and involvement, a new milestone in YWEA missionary education and fund raising was reached.

When it is erected, the International Church in New York City will minister in many different ways. It will provide a contact point for Church of God members coming into America from other countries. It will provide a base for a missionary intern program. It will provide worship and training opportunities for persons of different cultures and languages. And, it will provide a salvation lighthouse for reaching persons with the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ.

Thank you, young people, for your involvement in this project. On the next page you will find a

certificate of involvement. I would like for you to cut it out and keep it as a souvenir. You can write your name on the certificate or it can be typed in. Below is a list of states and the amount each state raised for the International Church in New York City.

God bless you and guide you into ever greater service for His cause.



1978 YWEA PROJECT INTERNATIONAL CHURCH—NEW YORK CITY

STATE	STATE DIRECTOR	AMOUNT	STATE	STATE DIRECTOR	AMOUNT
Alabama	Raymond Culpepper	\$62,265.31	New Mexico	Bobby Duncan	66.89
Alaska	Oewayne Payne	610.60	New York City	Charles Marcelle	1,299.89
Arizona	J. Roy Stone	767.68	New York		666.72
Arkansas	Lane Sargent	1,323.71	North Carolina	Paul Collins	38,839.15
California-Nevada (N)	Samuel O. Adkerson	18,154.57	North-South Dakota	Barry Gilliam	3,720.09
California-Nevada (S)	Johnny Bunch	6,189.82	New England (N)	David Lorency	2,671.03
Canada (E)	You Oisteer Bindra	358.42	New England (S)	Willis Flynn	5,695.78
Canada (W)	Walter Engel	3,524.95	Dhio (N)	Donald Walker	5,267.05
Colorado-Wyoming	C. Waymon Miller	4,517.00	Dhio (S)	Jerry Millwood	10,685.53
Florida	Robert Cary	35,288.57	Oklahoma	James E. Cossey	6,871.91
Florida (Jacksonville)	Quan Miller	442.31	Dregon	Richard Oial	1,178.04
Georgia (N)	Robert Herrin	59,329.93	Pennsylvania	Earl Cushman	15,122.07
Georgia (S)	Junus C. Fulbright	20,421.31	South Carolina	W. A. Davis	36,456.26
Hawaii	Mark Knock	3,038.21	Tennessee	Lawrence Leonhardt	24,980.64
Idaho-Utah	Charles LaFoy	366.74	Texas	Travis Porter	6,140.83
Illinois	Gary Tygart	15,782.97	Virginia	H. Lynn Stone	11,304.84
Indiana	William A. Reid	15,364.28	Washington	J. David Stephens	3,806.87
Iowa	Thomas Burton	1,587.12	West Virginia	David L. Meadows	47,409.21
Kansas	Donnie Smith	1,608.27	Wisconsin	Robert Rogers	3,138.54
Kentucky	Drville Hagan	7,794.61	Spanish (Eastern)	Isaias Robles	—D—
Louisiana	Kenneth Hall	10,522.04	Spanish (Western)		—D—
Maryland-Delaware-DC	Robert Frazier	21,460.65	Spanish (N. Central)	Hector Quintana	179.95
Michigan	T. David Sustar	16,301.05	Spanish (Central)	Manuel de la Garza	72.43
Minnesota	Randall Hamon	300.00	Africa		1,147.10
Mississippi	Ernest Quinley	18,517.85	Spain		40.00
Missouri	Roland Pendley	5,761.94	Central America (Honduras)		80.00
Montana	Donald Hughes	1,018.94	Gallup, New Mexico		16.00
Nebraska	Charles Duncan	780.50			
New Jersey	John McCloud	2,633.38			
				TOTAL	\$562,889.55

(Over please CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION)

Care and share

YWEA

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

NAME

Has rendered superlative service in the Kingdom of God through outstanding support of the 1978 YWEA project. The project—an international church in New York City—stands as a monument to Church of God young people, and especially to the above named person. This recognition denotes commitment to Christ and a vision for the evangelization of the world.



Floyd D. Carey
Floyd D. Carey, General Director
Marcus V. Hand
Marcus V. Hand, YWEA Coordinator

YWEA—A Ministry of Church of God Young People

National Family Emphasis

Nov. 8-15, 1978

FAMILY WORSHIP
in Inspiring Church Services
FAMILY FELLOWSHIP
in Special Home Activities
FAMILY INSTRUCTION
in a New Study Text



FOR PARENTS ONLY . . .

FAMILY-LIFE INVENTORY

Take three minutes to inventory your household. Be sure to answer all questions as honestly as possible.

1. Do your children see you as their spiritual counselor? YES NO
2. Is there a special time of the day for the entire family to discuss significant matters as a family? YES NO
3. Does the family have regular family devotions? YES NO
4. Are specific duties in the home assigned to each member of the family? YES NO
5. Does the family share prayer requests regularly with each other? YES NO
6. Do members of the family exchange gifts at any time other than Christmas? YES NO

7. Are major decisions, such as changing jobs, buying a new car, etc., discussed as a family matter? YES NO
8. If the house pet were to get run over by an automobile, would its death be dealt with honestly and openly? YES NO
9. Do your children have a thorough understanding of Church of God history? YES NO
10. If, on a TV program, a delicate sexual matter is discussed, is there also an attempt by you to give your children a biblical Christian perspective? YES NO
11. Do your children know clearly which TV programs you consider acceptable and those you morally object to? YES NO
12. Do your children feel you and your spouse to be friends as well as husband and wife? YES NO

How Does Your Family Rate?

The more "yes" answers probably indicate the stronger the family.

12—Great! Keep up the good work.

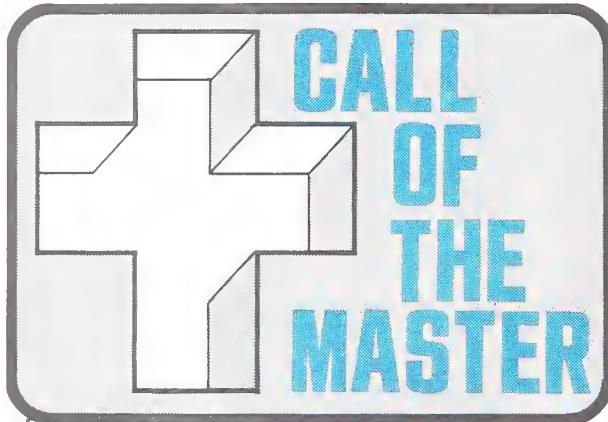
9-11—A solid and strong family

6-8 —Keep striving—plenty of strength, but also room for growth.

3-5 —Use this discovery to renew your faith in God and in each other—set new goals and determination for growth.

Family Discussion

The results of your inventory should be used in a follow-up family discussion group. Compare your opinions with the opinions of other family members. Listen carefully to each member so that everyone's views are fully shared.



by Robert Frazier



L. Armstrong Roberts Photo

NO MORE TIME

My small foreign car slid across the passing lane. I frantically whirled the steering wheel! No effect! The roadway hurled me toward the snow-laden ditch. I braced for impact, my mind racing. How had it happened?

A district convention 260 miles distant had beckoned me from a warm home to a miserable winter day in North Dakota. I had just begun the trip when a storm dumped large amounts of snow. The temperature had hovered between melting and freezing, putting a treacherous slush on the highway. Wind had added to the hazardous driving. But, I had driven in worse. Cer-

tainly it was not serious enough to cancel an appointment and stay home.

I slowed down for a small town. Then as I accelerated, the car had gone into this crazy skid.

Now what?

My thoughts must have occupied only a fleeting second. What was left for me in the remaining moment? There was no time to make that apology or straighten out the mistake. Certainly no time to repent, had I wanted to. Only time for one word, "Jesus."

As if alive, the word sprang involuntarily from my lips. Its echo brought a peace and safety nothing else could bring. The car jolted into the ditch and rolled!

It was over! Inventory revealed a small bump on my head. Nothing else.

One thought kept coming back, however. Had I not been a Christian, there would have been no time to be saved. It would have been eternally too late. And it had all happened so quickly.

If it had happened to you, what name would you have called? Your father? Your wife? Your son? Could you have called on Jesus?

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

THE NEW EDITOR



Hoyt E. Stone

In my mind is a picture gallery, held over from childhood and filled with memories. Noah and the flood. David and his sling. Jesus the carpenter. Calvary. They all hang there, framed, compliments of a youth magazine that came to our house every month.

And with them, other illustrations from the *Lighted Pathway*.

It is probably difficult for this generation to understand the influence of those simple graphics. Modern photography and television now dominate us so. But for me, the impact is there. My heritage. Impressions I can never erase.

This may explain some of my feelings and my respect for what my predecessor Clyne Buxton has referred to as "this grand old magazine." I tend to view it as an institution: awesome, fixed, almost holy. I come to the editorship conscious of the past and aware of the dedication and love those before me have lavished upon it.

I also know our world is changing. Issues, circumstances, the perspectives from which young people view themselves and their problems—these have evolved, these have taken on new character and personality as the result of knowledge explosion, and these must be addressed with new language and techniques.

And yet . . . some things have not changed.

Darkness is still present. Pervasive. Frightening. For some, overwhelming. Therefore our children and teenagers and young men and women

need reminding of the path. The lighted path.

It is here I make my commitment to this magazine and its readers. Men need not walk in darkness. Need not despair. Nor fear. God is light. He is love. Hope. God is, in Christ, reconciling this world to Himself. Faith, confidence, beauty—these are the themes and these the positive messages we all need to emphasize. No matter the wrappings, the format, the launching pad, no matter the style or the type article, these will be the truths this periodical will continue to set forth.

A word about Clyne Buxton. He is a prince, a very gifted man, and a close personal friend. He has shown great kindness and offered valuable assistance in the midst of change. He moves to the challenge of a new path, a pastorate in Mobile, with hope and faith. Perhaps we will hear from him occasionally in these pages.

Our next month's issue will feature Teen Talent. Youth activities at the Assembly in Kansas City. Personality features. Some projections.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hoyt E. Stone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'H' at the beginning.

Announcing! National Church Music Conference



DECEMBER
27, 28, 29, 1978
at Lee College
Cleveland, TN

Special Guests

/ Ralph Carmichael / Bill Gaither

CONFERENCE COST

The cost of the conference is \$60.00 per person. This includes:

- * Admission to all seminars and classes
- * Lodging for three nights in the college dormitories
- * All meals
- * Free admission to all concerts
- * Based on double occupancy room

Off campus (Holiday Inn) cost is \$70.00 per person.

This includes:

- * Admission to all seminars and classes
 - * Lodging for three nights in the Keith Street Holiday Inn
 - * Free admission to all concerts
 - * Based on double occupancy room—quadruple available
 - * DOES NOT INCLUDE MEALS
- Seminars, classes, and concerts ONLY: \$35.00.

SPONSORED BY

National Music Committee, Lee College and Tennessee Music and Printing Co.

Payment Schedule: \$10.00 Registration fee payable with application, is included as part of your overall cost.
The balance is payable at the conference.

Delton Alford	David Horton	Charles Towler
Mike Baker	Virginia Horton	Bennie S. Triplett
Steve Brock	Nellie Jeffords	Charles Wycuff
Jim Burns	Roosevelt Miller	Lanny Wolfe
The Churchmen	Mary Morris	Lowell Lampkin
Vep Ellis	Max Morris	Rick Powell
Connor B. Hall	Phillip Thomas	Don Wyrtzen
Speer Family, Lee Singers, Danniebelle, and others		

CONFERENCE STAFF

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

YOUTH MUSICIANS (ages 15-24): private lessons in voice, piano, organ, guitar, bass, percussion, or winds / small group development / arranging / conducting / choral singing / Teen Talent preparation / reading session / professional opportunities / and MORE

ADULT MUSICIANS AND DIRECTORS: conducting and rehearsals / song writing / reading sessions / recording techniques / private lessons / group organization and development / touring / developing a church orchestra / Teen Talent judging / arranging / music as a spiritual ministry / graded choir program / teaching music reading / and MORE

APPLICATION

NAME _____

AGE ____ SEX ____ PHONE () _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY ____ STATE ____ ZIP _____

Limited enrollment. Registration should be postmarked no later than December 4, 1978.

Enclose \$10.00 deposit and mail to: DAVID HORTON Lee College Cleveland, TN 37311

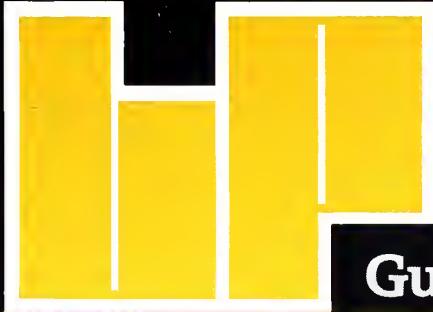
PRIVATE LESSONS

PIANO ORGAN VOICE

OTHER _____

ON CAMPUS OFF CAMPUS

CONFERENCE ONLY



Guiding Youth

Lighted Pathway

Vol. 49, No. 11

**Feature
Teen Talent (Assembly)
Stories
News and Activities
Call of the Master
Editorial**



MICHAEL
SCEARCE

An Artist Steps Forth

Note our new format.

This month's feature is about an artist seeking to launch his career in the highly competitive world of commercial art.

For those who missed the Assembly in Kansas City, our series of articles on Teen Talent will let you catch up: feel the excitement backstage and out front. Other personalities will occupy this space in future issues.

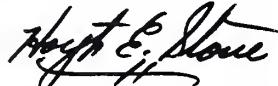
The stories are seasonal, focusing on Thanksgiving.

We plan to do more news, activities, articles on what's happening nationwide in local congregations and with Church of God young people.

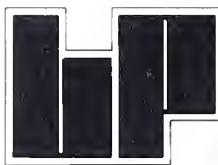
Debbie will be doing "Yesterday's Youth: Where Are They Now?" on a regular basis; and we will continue "Call of the Master."

The editorials will be serious.

We welcome your suggestions, comments, reports. Even your enlightened criticisms. Just write: Lighted Pathway, 1080 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee 37311.



P.S. Our thanks to Ed Anderson for the Teen Talent photos.



**Lighted
Pathway**

MEMBER **epta** EVANGELICAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

Index

FEATURE

An Artist Steps Forth (Michael Scearce) 3

TEEN TALENT (ASSEMBLY)

Department Overview 6

Kimberly Choir, Marla Wilson 8

Youth at the Assembly, Mike Baker 10

Music, Mary Morris 11

Art, Lonzo Kirkland 12

Onward Together, Douglas LeRoy 13

Thy Words Giveth Light, David Sustar 14

National Winners 16

Memories, Mary Morris 17

STORIES

Shelter, Rocky Holmes 18

The Silent Thanks, Eddie Vernon 20

NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Yesterday's Youth, Debbie Patterson 23

The Music Conference 24

YWEA Coordinator 24

CALL OF THE MASTER

Saved, Irma Williams 26

EDITORIAL

Grace, Hoyt E. Stone 27

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MICHAEL SCEARCE, artist



Michael Scearce may well be an eighteen-year-old artistic genius. The first I've met.

One thing for sure, he is good enough at his hobby and his proposed career to win top

honors in Teen Talent. He was able last year to take second place in the national competition of all High School Vocational Industrial Arts Clubs of America (VICA), a feat which earned him an Olympic medal and a scholarship of \$7,000.

I met Mike in Roanoke, Virginia, just after State Teen Talent competition. When his mother held up a silver disc, letting it dangle from a red, white, and blue ribbon, and when she announced, "My son won an Olympic medal," I immediately saw visions of snow skiers jumping, or swimmers diving, or little Russian girls doing gymnastics.

Michael explained later, in Kansas City. We sat on the second floor of the arena's display area. It was a balcony that overlooked the bookstore, the Lee College booth, and a big sign advertising suits, and Michael and I had just received a very cool reception from a judge who didn't feel I, nor anyone else, had any business there until the finals. Mike

only laughed and sprawled into a steel-backed chair.

"It's not the regular olympics Sports. Or winter. Like you read so much about. It's competition in the United States Skill Olympics. Over fifty categories. Kids compete in every technical skill."

"I entered the Commercial Arts division at my own high school in Virginia Beach. First Colonial. There was a class runoff. I took first place. Then a district runoff, a state runoff, and finally in June of this year the national competition in Birmingham. There I won second place, rather than first. Fortunately, though, the first place winner already had a scholarship. That gave me the \$7,000 scholarship along with the second place medal."

Michael said it all in a matter-of-fact tone. Smiling. Just a hint of boyishness behind the freckles.

"When did you start, Michael? Your art? What first got you involved?"

"My mother. I think it started when she put a pencil in my hand to keep me quiet in church. I've always liked art, even in grade school. Commercial art gave me some discipline and I'm certainly thankful for all the encouragement I've had—from teachers, friends, my parents—but deep down I view it mostly as a talent. God-given. I'd like to use it for Him and the church."

Michael's parents, Reverend and Mrs. David Searce, recently moved to a new pastorate in Franklin, Virginia.

Not Michael. He's in Jimmy Carter country, enrolled as a freshman in Atlanta's Institute of Art. If things go as planned, he'll stay two years. With his classroom responsibilities, Michael hopes to freelance his art work and pick up

some money with commercial projects.

"Along with church, I certainly expect to stay busy," Michael says.

"Then what?"

"Well . . . I'm not sure. I suppose it'll depend somewhat on my open doors. The opportunities that come along. I'll need more schooling. And plan to get it. Just don't know for sure when. I'm thinking of the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. There I could continue my art training and earn a regular B.A. degree."

"What about church, Michael? Have you been involved in the past?"

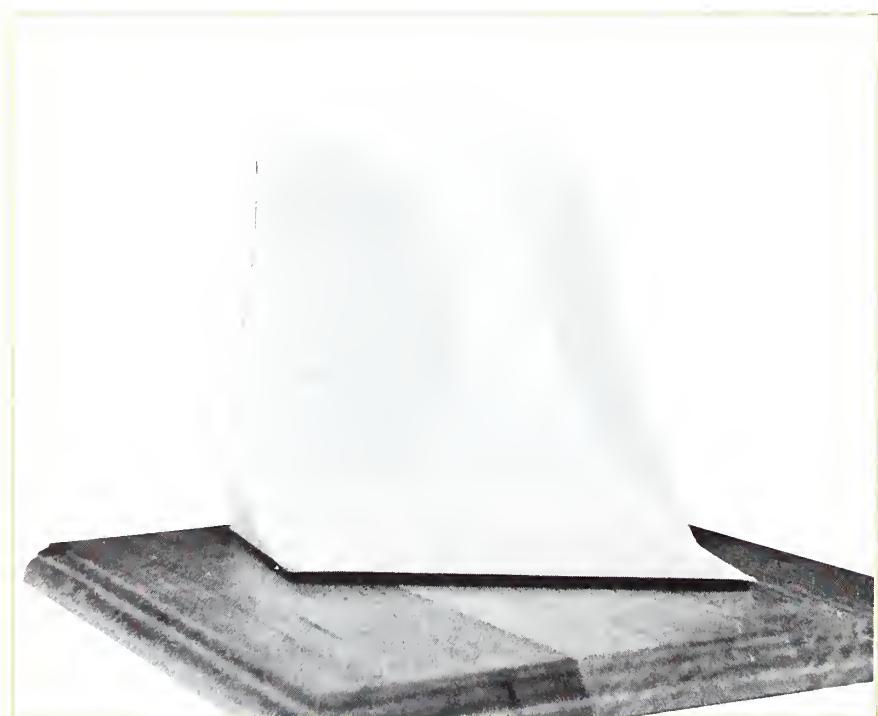
"Always. I've been a bus pastor. Sung in the choir. Helped teach. I've worked with the advertising and, of course, done most of the little chores that fall to the preacher's kid."

"And in Atlanta?"

"I'll find a church. Maybe Mt. Paran. Maybe one of the others. But I can't imagine a life without some association with the church. Nor would I want it."



Above: Photo shots of Michael's medal. Below: His paper sculpture. Opposite: A pen drawing of David and Goliath, along with the oil painting that won him first place in Teen Art.







DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Spirit of Youth

FLOYD D. CAREY,
*General Director of Youth
and Christian Education*

The word "together" can be used to describe the spirit of our youth at the General Assembly. They were together . . . in faith . . . in hope . . . and in love. There is a way that you can experience this "togetherness" spirit.

"I was not able to be with you, but I want you to know that I was there in spirit." When a friend makes a statement such as this, he is conveying a quality of feeling and expressing a state of mind. Because he sincerely wanted to be there, he was able to feel the "good things" that happened and to picture them in his mind.

Many of you were not able to attend the General Assembly, but I know you wanted to be there. And because you wanted to be there the articles, pictures, and statements in this issue of the *Lighted Pathway* will help you to feel and to picture in your mind the "good things" that happened.

The Involvement of Youth

LAMAR VEST,
Assistant General Director

One thing is for sure. You get several thousand young people together and there *will* be involvement . . . in something. Young people just aren't very good spectators. There is something about young people which wants to be a part of what's happening. If it isn't happening, youth make it happen.

If you were a young person attending the Fifty-seventh General Assembly, you didn't have to go looking for involvement. It came looking for you. Involvement opportunities were everywhere: Teen Talent music competition, Teen Talent Bible competition, youth rallies, an ice cream festival, an international youth celebration, and much more.

The General Department of Youth and Christian Education has a thing about this involvement business. We believe that young people are a vital part of the church body. Whenever the church gets together, we are committed to seeing that young people are included in a meaningful and productive manner. We love you! And we want you to find and to accept your place in this church.



The Vision of Youth

J. RALPH BREWER,
Administrative Assistant

The hundreds of young people who attended the Fifty-seventh General Assembly in Kansas City were an excellent representation of the vast youth population of the Church of God worldwide. Their youthful presence not only generated excitement, but their participation in various activities reflected a deep love for God, a strong commitment to their faith, and a bright vision for the future.

Few experiences in life are as rewarding as hearing a teenage boy teach a class on the subject "Boldness for Witnessing," or listening to a young lady stand and with clear, crisp tones read a selective passage from the Word of God, or sharing the tense mo-

ments with two quiz teams as they enter the final rounds of the National Bible Quizzing competition.

These experiences plus many others form a gallery of unforgettable portraits of the 1978 General Assembly. They serve to strengthen our confidence in the future of the Church of God and as a lasting tribute to the commitment and vision of young people dedicated to Christ.

The Fellowship of Youth

MARCUS V. HAND,
YWEA Coordinator

Young people gravitate to other young people naturally. The closeness of youth at the General Assembly in Kansas City created a mosaic of beauty. Languages, cultures, and nationalities intermingled to form a symphony of

fellowship in Christ. They gathered from nearly every state and more than fifty foreign countries for a week of unforgettable experiences.

"Together" was the theme of the Assembly and togetherness was achieved by the youth. Though different in attitude, accent, and manner, they came "together." They talked together, laughed together, ate together, and had fun together. More important, they worshiped together! In the Youth Action rallies, in the International Youth Festival and in the Assembly worship services, young people could be seen *together*, worshiping in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit. Has fellowship ever been so beautiful? Thousands of Church of God young people who attended the Assembly would shout a resounding "No!"

The voice on the other end of the line said, "There's some bad news. Kevin had an accident today, and may not get to come to Kansas City for competition. He suffered a concussion, and the doctor may not let him come."

I was already in Kansas City on Monday. Kevin is our main bass singer in the Kimberly Youth Choir (for Teen Talent we only had three basses), and the phone call shook me up—especially since only the week before our piano player had been in a very serious accident. With God's protective hand upon him he had only a slight bump on the head.

Naturally, I started praying, praying selfishly at first; "O God, let Kevin come to Kansas City!" I started thinking while I was praying, then changed my

prayer. It wasn't really so important that Kevin make the trip—just as long as he was all right! God helped him. The bus rolled in late Wednesday afternoon and there was Kevin—right in the middle of the group—maybe scratched up some—but he was all right!

National Teen Talent is nothing new to the Kimberly Youth Choir. The group placed second in 1974, was in Dallas again for Teen Talent in 1976, and then again in 1978 won the very distinguished title and beautiful trophy for runner-up.

As choir director, my main goal in 1978 was for the choir to worship in competition. The two times before, competition was a little newer: we were nervous, full of anxiety, *panic-stricken* (all those things that go with national competition). *But this time*, our goal was "to

worship on the competition stage!" We used a scripture in 2 Chronicles to give us inspiration: "For the Lord hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him" (2 Chronicles 29:11). This scripture became our goal not only for competition, but for every time we have stood up to sing since, in our regular services, visiting other churches, and in preparing our weekly radio broadcast.

To prepare to worship in competition we went a little further. We thought of the required song's application to biblical times: "The Son of God Has Passed This Way"—we thought of the woman with the issue of blood, blind Bartimaeus. The words say, "Where will you be among the crowd?"—we thought of Zaccheus, of Nicodemus; then we

KIMBERLY CHOIR



applied the song to our day. We testified to each other and meditated in our own private devotions about the times Jesus has passed our way.

On the competition stage under those hot lights in the crowded Music Hall—"in the hot seat" under the judges' scrutiny—a cool breeze blew across the stage just before we began to sing. I told the choir, "Jesus is passing by here right now." Jeff Easter began the piano intro—our minds, hearts, and voices melted into one harmonious thought: THE SON OF GOD HAS PASSED THIS WAY!—Hallelujah!

The presence of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost permeated our very beings and spirits as we sang the Trinity medley: "Holy, Holy, Holy—Jesus Is Precious—

Spirit of the Living God."

Our joy could hardly be expressed in mere music as we thought of the words and sang Delton and Myrna Alford's "A New Song": "Today the rest of my life has taken new meaning—I found the Lord and I know that I'm free—I'm light as air, happy and free."

The applause continued as we walked off the risers to the backstage area. My kids were crying and raising hands to the Lord who had helped them think on Him. As soon as I got back to the dressing room Pam Nail said, "Let's praise the Lord right now." So we raised our hands in love, in adoration, in heart thankfulness for Christ's abiding presence, the joy He gives, the hope He spreads into our hearts, and because we were able to compete "all unto the glory of God."

We were thrilled with the honor we received in rating second. The attitude of the choir might be summed up in the words of a lovely choir member who wrote in a very special card that the choir gave me just before the Awards Festival:

Dear Marla,

I love you so much! I'm glad that you shared your knowledge of music with us. Even if we don't win this time, I'm glad we did our best for the Lord—that's winning to me!

Love,
Pam Moman

So, the 1978 National Teen Talent Competition wasn't just a talent winning year for the Kimberly Youth Choir. God helped to make it an unforgettable worship experience for us!

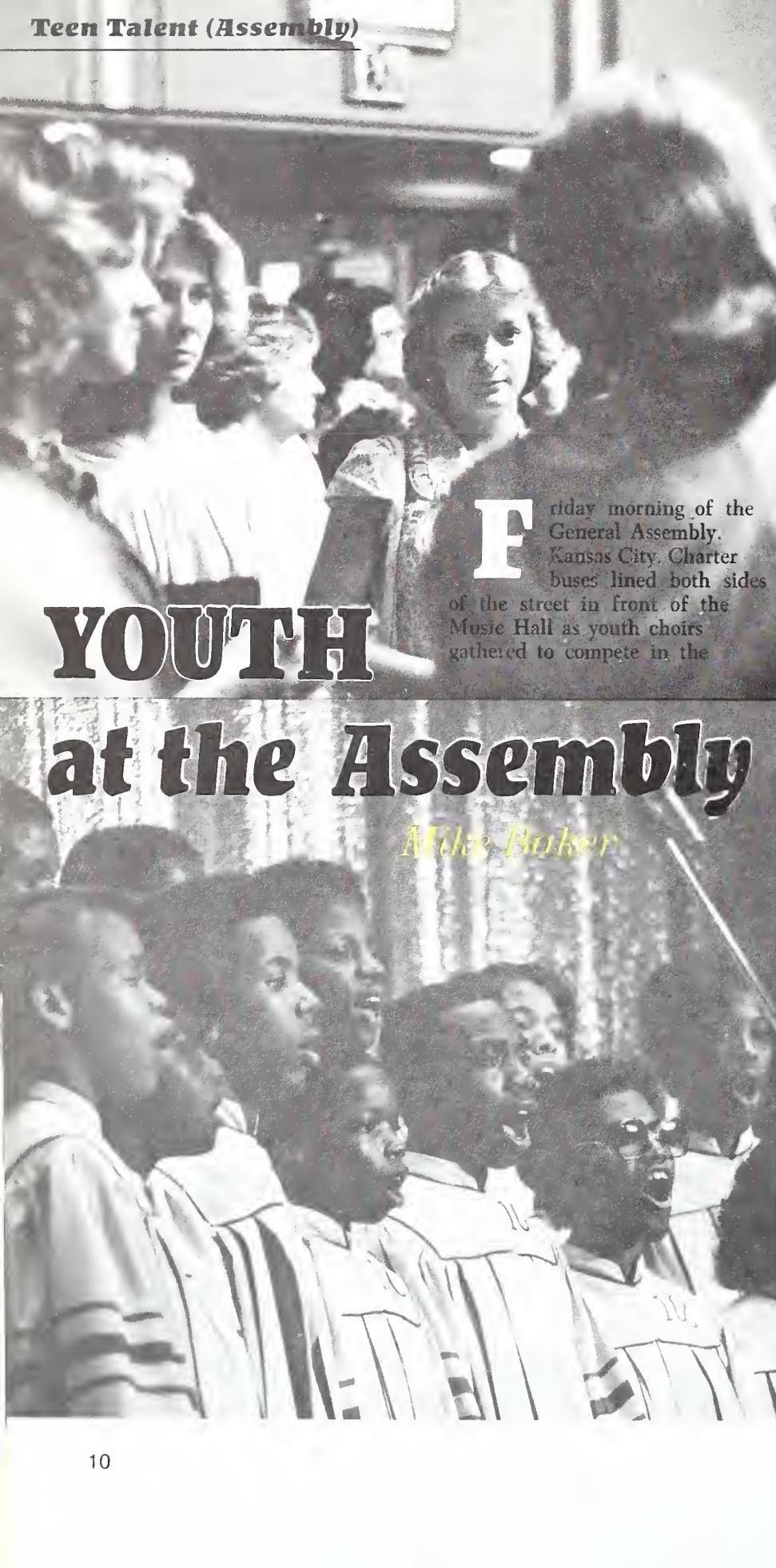
Marla Wilson



YOUTH

at the Assembly

Mike Baker



Friday morning of the General Assembly, Kansas City Charter buses lined both sides of the street in front of the Music Hall as youth choirs gathered to compete in the

National Teen Talent finals. The Music Hall vibrated with an air of excitement. Choirs gathered backstage waiting for their moment. Then came the spotlight before a capacity crowd.

Each choir a story in itself. A story of consistent preparation for more than a year.

Teen Talent Competition began on the regional level of each state. Regional winners competed at the state level. Finally, the culmination of national competition at the General Assembly.

National competition demanded each choir to perform three selections: one required arrangement and two of free choice.

Sponsoring local churches also played an important role. First, each congregation had to recognize the talents of its teenagers. Second, the church had to remind its teenagers that their contributions are important to God and the church. Third, the church had to get teenagers involved.

The choirs traveled thousands of miles to Kansas City. To raise funds, they developed innumerable money-making projects including concerts, car washes, and bake sales.

Every choir prepared outfits so that each group had its own distinctive appearance. Many of the choirs stopped at churches along the way for musical programs.

One distinctive stood out: the joy of serving Christ. Backstage was a time for prayer and spiritual preparation.

What are the benefits? They are multidimensional!

Teenagers have opportunity to expand their vision of the church. They see firsthand what the church offers. They interact with other young people in Christian fellowship. They dedicate their talents to the glory of God.

Beautiful performances, a high degree of excellence, and a deep spiritual dimension describe the activities of the Teen Talent music finals held in the Music Hall at Kansas City, Missouri, last August. According to Lamar Vest, assistant general director of youth and Christian education in the Church of God, "More people participated in Teen Talent this year than any other year since its inception. Also the audience participation was the greatest ever!"

And how true! Participants came from almost every state in the union as well as from the various regions in Canada. Young people also represented all the regions of the Spanish works in the United States. This gave the Teen Talent music finals a more "international" flavor!

The finalists had previously won in their regional and state Teen Talent Competitions and were all converging on Kansas City for the national competition. They brought all

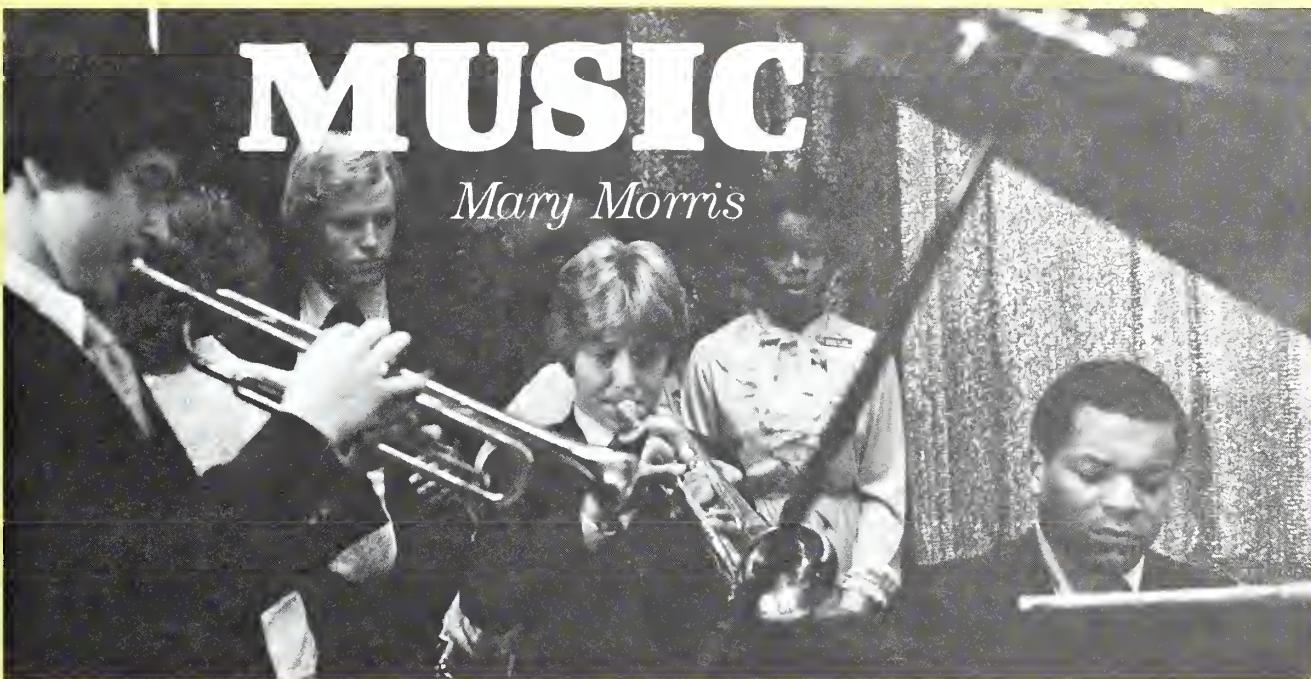
sorts of instruments—bassoons, cellos, drum sets, guitars, flutes, trumpets—as well as their beautiful voices. They participated in various categories of the music division: vocal solo, vocal ensemble, choir, instrumental solo—brass, woodwind, string, keyboard, and percussion—and instrumental ensemble.

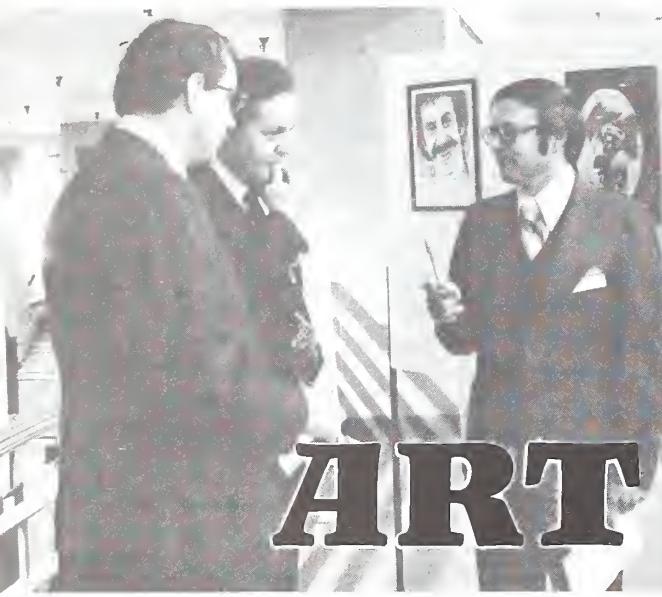
After months of strenuous practice, the moment finally came in which each participant walked out on stage and performed in front of an audience often numbering 3,000 or more. Most of the participants were at least a little nervous, but most performed with admirable poise, only having a few moments before the session to "feel out" the auditorium and sound system. During their performance the adjudicators were rating their performance and were writing comments that would be helpful to their future development. Families and friends were also out in the audience rooting for them. The moment of truth dawned

upon them that this was the moment they had been preparing for all these months (or years)! They were actually participating in a national music competition and doing all to the glory of God!

Along with all the excitement in competition, it was observed that most of the young people prayed before going on stage that they would do their best—not necessarily win. What maturity! How important! Because that is what Teen Talent is all about anyway.

W. Raymond Pettit, Music Division coordinator and a pastor, after an exhausting week of Teen Talent finals, observed: "The greatest joy is to see the transition of young people to adults; onlooker to participant; and inexperience to experience. I am looking forward to the next National Teen Talent Competition." One thing is for sure: one will never be the same after Teen Talent.





ART

*Lonzo
Kirkland*



Above: Kirkland and Vest discuss Art Competition at the Assembly
Right and below: Samples of art work judged in Kansas City.

One hundred and fourteen young artists displayed their work at the General Assembly, competing in ceramics, graphics, painting, photography, sculpture, and textiles. Winners were selected by professional judges in each of the categories.

Entries were displayed as testimony of the creative talents of Church of God youth.

There was an expression of love and adoration to God in a pen-and-ink rendition of "Man of Sorrows." A beautifully photographed flower. The soft texture of a woven wall hanging. These expressions were not accidental. They reflected the experiences, the feelings, and the imaginations of creative artists, physical extensions of talent God has given them. By using this talent, these young people have affirmed faith in God. They have found an identity with the One who created all things and who finds pleasure in the act of creation itself (Genesis 1; Revelation 4:11).

Not all participants left with trophies, but all were winners in that they used their talent to glorify God.



ONWARD TOGETHER

Douglas LeRoy

TEEN TALE



Why didn't you bring me before?" questioned a fourteen-year-old to her mother. "This is great!" More than three thousand teens who went to Kansas City for the Assembly agreed.

Kerry King, representing Northern New England in Bible Reading, was thrilled to see so many young people loving Jesus. It encouraged her to return to Maine with a deeper commitment to Christ.

Winners of the first National Bible Quizzing Competition were a team of young people from Warrior, Alabama. The pastor said their church won thirty young people to Christ during this program. Their praying and

their response to Bible questions became a spiritual experience.

Teen activities began Monday night as young people crowded into the Imperial Ballroom at the Muehlebach Hotel. Others attended the World Evangelism Rally at the auditorium.

Children's Action Rallies were conducted Tuesday through Saturday. Lynn Stone, state youth director of Virginia, coordinated these endeavors, and children were taught with puppets and object lessons.

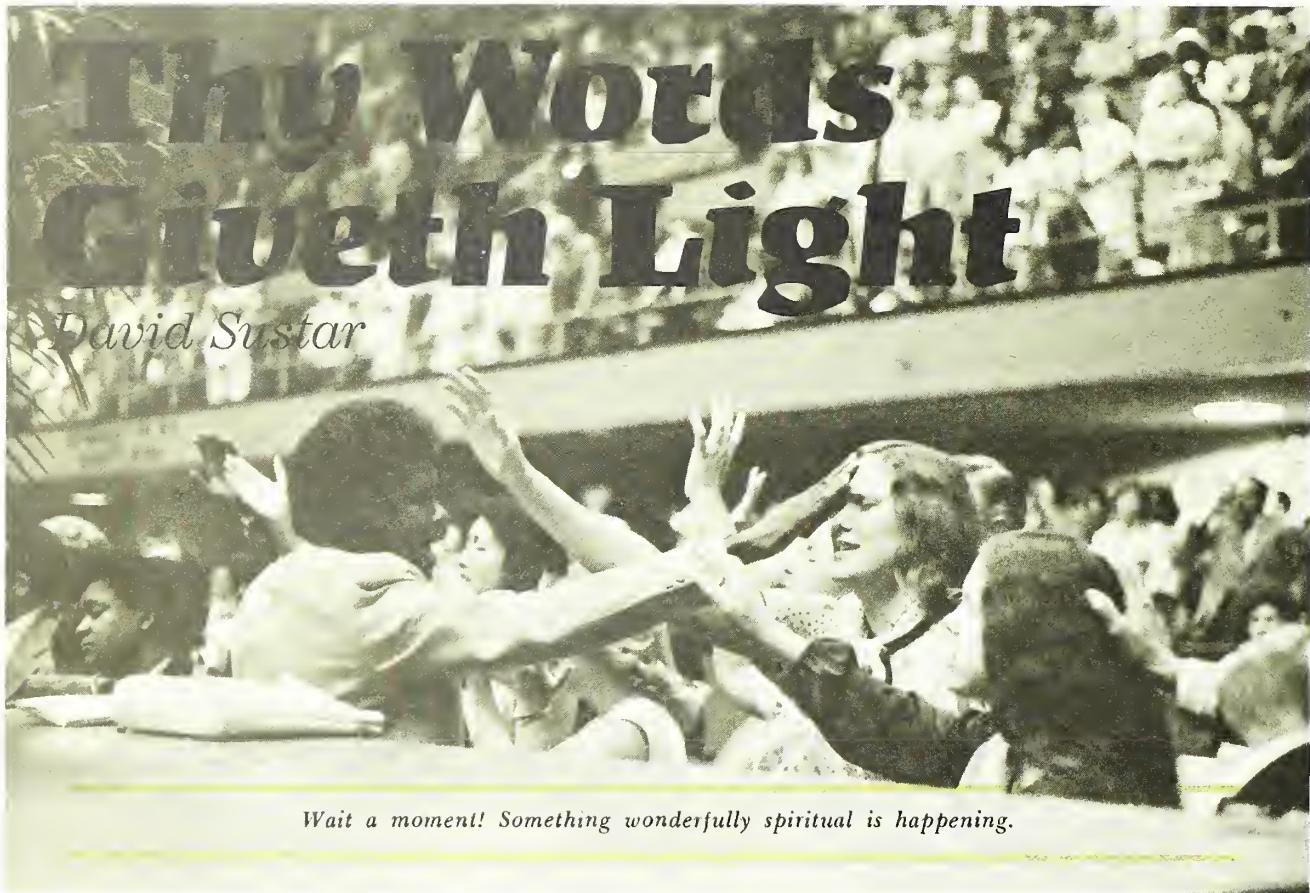
Friday was the Youth Ice Cream Festival; Saturday, the Awards Festival. As lights dimmed and the spotlight weaved across the audience, you could

feel the excitement. Lamar Vest announced the winners. Floyd D. Carey presented trophies.

Screams of victory intermingled with handclapping. Parents, pastors, and friends joined in the fun.

Sunday evening youth service was the highlight. The mass choir sang and worshiped. God's Spirit swept over the congregation. Steve Brock sang and James Byrd (Tampa, Florida) spoke on "Onward in the Spirit of Our Heritage."

An altar invitation was given. From the balconies, from the main floor, from the corridors, they moved to the altar. Somehow you felt in your heart that this was a fitting climax.



Wait a moment! Something wonderfully spiritual is happening.

It's Tuesday, August 1, and you've followed the large signs announcing BIBLE QUIZZING, BIBLE READING, BIBLE TEACHING to the fourth floor hallway. On your left is Room 400 where the Bible Quizzing will occur. On your right, Room 403 sits empty except for the equipment to be used tomorrow for the Bible Reading and Teaching.

This is it! Walk through those doors and you have arrived! These are the national finals. If you're a spectator, you're breathless with anticipation. If you're a contestant, your whole life flashes before you as a panorama of questions and answers. As you hesitate, others enter slowly, almost as if mortified by the suspense.

And why not? You're a part of history! This is a first—no team

**A SPECIAL WELCOME
to all of you from Keith
Tim and the puppets!**



has ever faced another, no contestant read a passage of Scripture or taught a lesson in national competition. Wow! I don't know if we can take all of this! Taking a deep breath, you open the door.

Hey, that's neat. This place really looks professional—the electronic quiz unit, the voice-activated microphones, the an-

nouncement board for upcoming teams, the long table with the judges, scorekeepers, time-keeper, and equipment judge, and the podium for the Quizmaster. Someone has worked hard to get everything ready.

The teams and coaches have arrived for Session 1; they have been briefed and paired for competition. The judges and official personnel are in place and it's almost time to start. LET'S PRAY!

The teams quiz in, giving their names. This first match in the history of national finals is Alabama versus Arizona, and a set of twenty questions will be asked. At least the Quizmaster is trying to ask them. He can't get a word or two out before someone buzzes and the equipment judge calls, "Interruption, Green 1."

How can they do that? Ques-



tion after question is interrupted and answered. This can't go on. They're not that smart. Oh, my nerves!

They *are* that smart and I'm proud of them all. What excitement! Alabama wins Session 1, with the other teams each losing twice to be eliminated. Tomorrow through Friday, Sessions 2 through 7 will be held with the winners of each session in the finals on Saturday. I hope I last that long.

It's Wednesday morning, almost nine, and a new area of the Bible Division begins today—Bible Reading. In Room 403, the sound system gets a final check, contestants are briefed and the five judges are seated at the table. Again, it's time for prayer!

Wait a moment! Something wonderfully spiritual is happening. Did you hear what he said in his prayer? "Oh, God, the entrance of thy words giveth light." Do you sense what is happening? That's why we have been challenged to read, teach, and quiz. The entrance of God's Word giveth light. Praise God!

After announcing her scripture's location, the first contestant begins to read. In ten-minute intervals contestants from eight other states follow. Each

presentation is beautiful and the Spirit of God anoints the Word. Four other contestants will compete tomorrow before the judges determine the winner and runner-up.

After lunch, Room 403 is the scene of another historical occasion. The first National Bible Teaching contestant is introduced, and in fifteen-minute intervals seven others follow. What a joy to hear the Word ably taught to various age levels. Four more contestants will compete tomorrow. Of course, the Bible Reading and Bible Teaching winners and runners-up will not be announced until the Awards Festival on Saturday night.

Ah! Saturday. The hour has arrived and the National Bible Quiz finals are moved to the Music Hall Auditorium. The teams which have emerged as session winners are as follows: Session 1, Alabama; Session 2, South Georgia; Session 3, Mississippi; Session 4, Oklahoma; Session 5, Pennsylvania; Session 6, Tennessee; Session 7, West Virginia. The teams are now paired and competition is underway.

Set after set of questions is used, and the speed of interrupting the Quizmaster increases. Mind, heart, and spirit are fully taxed in this "quizzing



shoot-out." When the dust settles, Alabama emerges as the national winner—taking two straight sets from an undefeated Mississippi team. Whew! I hope I have enough strength left to make it to the Awards Festival.

This Awards Festival is something else! I've never seen so many young people so excited. When national winners and runners-up in different categories



are named, they go wild with excitement. It's no different with the Bible Division. As Lamar Vest reads the name of Kim Black, Virginia, as runner-up and Kathy Walters, South Georgia, as winner of the Bible Reading, the applause is deafening. It's just as loud when Melody Beavers, Northern California-Nevada, is announced as runner-up and Rod Stansky, Alabama, as winner of the Bible Teaching. The same excitement sweeps the auditorium as the Alabama team is announced as National Bible Quiz winners with Mississippi as runner-up.

And just when I think my nerves can rest, Floyd Carey announces another runoff in Miami next year. Memories are great, but don't play "Auld Lang Syne" for the Bible Division of Teen Talent. IT'S ONWARD TOGETHER TO MIAMI!

NATIONAL WINNERS

MUSIC DIVISION

CATEGORY	WINNER (PERSON-GROUP)	CHURCH	STATE
Vocal Solo	Brian L. Green	Crescent Springs	Kentucky
Instrumental Solo Keyboard	Kim Shealy	LaFrance	South Carolina
Instrumental Solo Brass	Keith Jeffords	Mableton	N. Georgia
Instrumental Solo Woodwind	Kara McKinzie	Odessa (Grandview)	Texas
Instrumental Solo Strings	Melanie Ford	Tampa (Southside)	Florida
Instrumental Solo Percussion	Terry Johnson	Hamilton (Princeton Pike)	S. Ohio
Instrumental Ensemble	Sound Expressions	Mableton	N. Georgia
Vocal Ensemble	Reflection Ensemble	Jacksonville (Southside Estates)	Florida
Choir	Mableton Youth Singers	Mableton	N. Georgia

BIBLE DIVISION

CATEGORY	WINNER (PERSON-GROUP)	CHURCH	STATE
Bible Reading	Kathy Walters	Savannah (DeRenne)	S. Georgia
Bible Teaching	Rod Stansky	Huntsville (College Park)	Alabama
Bible Quizzing	Alabama Team	Warrior	Alabama

CREATIVE ART DIVISION

CATEGORY	WINNER (PERSON-GROUP)	CHURCH	STATE
Ceramics	Robert Henderson	Mt. Clemens	Michigan
Graphics	Robert Gast	Baltimore (Brooklyn)	Delmarva-D.C.
Painting	Michael Scearce	Virginia Beach	Virginia
Photography	Randy Bryant	Chicago (Chicago Tabernacle)	Illinois
Sculpture	Esta Shankle	Wadesboro	North Carolina
Textiles	Jackie Dillion	Houston (Gulf Meadows)	Texas

CREATIVE WRITING DIVISION

CATEGORY	WINNER	CHURCH	STATE
Short Stories (Fiction)	John Winter	Phoenix (44th Street)	Arizona
Articles and Essays (Nonfiction)	Renee Tiffin	Dolton	Illinois
Plays and Skits (Fiction and Nonfiction)	Ronald Duprau	Chambersburg	Pennsylvania
Poetry (Rhymed and Unrhymed)	Dan Stone	Woodbridge (Trinity Temple)	Virginia

The beautiful Music Hall . . .
Getting lost . . .
The shimmering silver curtain . . .
How beautiful each contestant looked . . .
The red ribbon each participant wore . . .
Rick Trotter (and stage hands) instantly setting up
for the next performance . . .
The Baldwin concert grand piano . . .
Cramps in the judges' fingers as they wrote and
wrote and wrote . . .
The required choir song . . .
Danny Murray (MC) mispronouncing a contestant's
name after practicing it backstage . . .
The elevator to the stage . . .
Nervousness . . .
Feverish activity backstage getting the next con-
testant(s) ready . . .
The organ that sometimes worked . . .
The prayer before going onstage . . .
The tears afterwards . . .
Asking a stranger if the performance was okay . . .
Ron Cason and the Courtesy Corps surviving the
crowds . . .
The one minute practice session for all percus-
sionists that registered 8.5 on the Richter Scale . . .
The Awards Festival . . .
The Brass Ensemble directed by Mike Baker . . .
The wandering spotlight that *finally* found the
winners . . .
Shiny trophies . . .
Screams of joy as each winner was announced . . .
Hugs and kisses . . .
Goodbyes . . .
Tired feelings . . .
Home . . .
Memories . . .

Memories

Mary Morris



Keith Reynolds was still young enough to think the world revolved around himself. He slammed the farmhouse door behind him, walked quickly to the edge of the porch, and looked down across the pasture. The south fence was down, all right, just as Uncle Henry said; but that didn't cool Keith's anger. Uncle Henry always had something else that needed doing. And Uncle Henry just never listened.

For two weeks now—two long weeks—he'd been planning this trip to Galax with Harry and Bob. He had told his uncle how important it was, all about the flea market and the factory representative from the Case Company who had advertised top money for old pocket knives. He had not, of course, told Uncle about hoping to see Betty.

But did it matter to Uncle Henry? No. Not one whit. All he ever thought about were chores, chores, and more chores. Well, I've had it, Keith said to himself as he buttoned his windbreaker and stepped from the porch into a cool November wind. I'm nothing but a slave around here anyway. Tomorrow I'm leaving. I'll go see Judge Andrews. He can just send me somewhere else to live.

"Hurry back, Keith," Uncle Henry called from the back door. Keith turned to see him standing there, arm pointing toward some dark clouds low over the Blue Ridge. "Looks like a storm blowing up."

Keith spat. He poked both fists into the pockets of his jacket and started walking. He didn't wave and he didn't look back. This time Uncle Henry had gone too far.

The south fence was only two strands of barbed wire, put up mostly to keep the two horses Prince and Joe close home. By himself, Joe was no problem but there seemed to be something in Prince that resisted confinement. He was always rubbing against fences, pushing them over. Keith paused at the gap. It was Prince all right. Red hair was intertwined in the barbs.

Prince would be down by the creek. Keith sighed. It'd be dark in an hour. He had to hurry. Leaving the tram road, Keith angled right over toward the bluff. It would be a steep climb, but quicker, and that's all he was thinking about. That, and getting back, and getting out. Tomorrow.

The rain started. Keith only heard it at first, along with the wind that rushed through the pines overhead, and then he felt big drops splash on his neck and face. His feet slipped on the pine needles and rotten leaves. Halfway down the ridge he reached for a sapling. It pulled out by the roots and, off balance, he tumbled and rolled for twenty feet, finally stopping at the foot of an old oak.

Keith's first reaction was disgust. He had muddied his dungarees and the elbows of his coat. Any kid should have known better.

He stood up, conscious of a pain in his right ankle. Not terrible, but there. Just beginning to throb. He took a step and collapsed with a groan. He felt his ankle. Turned it gingerly in both hands. Noted the swelling. Again he stood. Blood pounded in the ankle. He hobbled over to an outcropping of rock, sat,

and elevated his leg. The pain eased a little.

Rain came in torrents. Keith crawled back up the path to a large pine. The pine needles were spongy with water. Rain seeped down his neck and back. With it, cold. He shivered, not sure if it were fear or the cold.

Uncle Henry wouldn't come looking for at least an hour. When he did, he'd go down the tram road. A guy could freeze in this weather, Keith thought. There had been frost this morning because Uncle Henry had said they'd probably kill hogs Saturday. Keith had to get home. Somehow he had to. He started crawling, slowly, painfully up the path. Exercise stopped the chattering of his teeth for a while. It grew darker. Keith felt rocks cutting into his knees and hands and wondered if they bled.

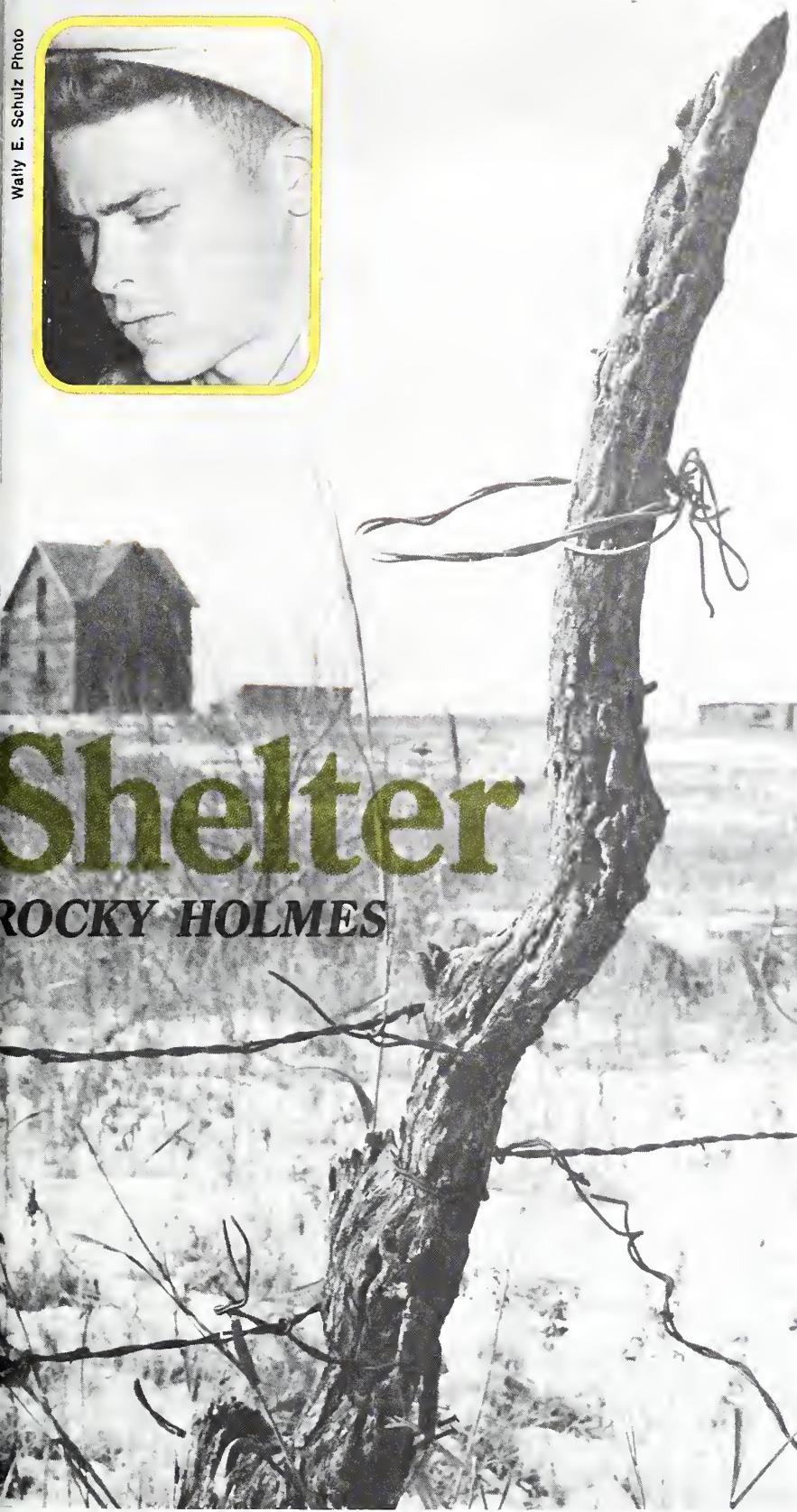
Crawl until breathless. Rest. Wipe rain from his face. Crawl some more. Rest. Keith did it over and again, losing count of the time. He shook violently from the cold and he prayed, "Lord, let Uncle Henry come looking for me. Please, Lord."

He topped the ridge, stood up and looked for the lights of the farmhouse. At first, nothing. Then, off to the right he saw two faint sparks. Tractor lights. Faintly, he heard the chug-chug of the old Farmall, but as he watched, the lights headed in the other direction. Uncle Henry was on the tram road.

"Uncle Henry!" Keith yelled. "Uncle Henry!"

The tractor lights faded away.

Keith tried to hop on his good leg since he was now in the open pasture, but he only got a few yards. Again he started crawling. He had to get



Bob Taylor Photo

over to the road. Hopefully, Uncle Henry would come back the same way. Again he prayed. And he thought of his home . . . well, his uncle's home . . . and how nice it would be to curl up behind the old wood stove.

Keith was cold. Bone cold. And the rain kept pounding. Pounding, pounding.

Chug-chug. Chug-chug. It was the tractor. Coming back. Keith struggled once more to stand.

"Uncle Henry! Over here!"

The tractor turned. Keith waved for a moment into the glare of the lights and then fell headlong into the wet grass.

* * * *

"Keith. Oh Keith. Can you hear me, Keith." It was Aunt Mary. She seemed a long way off. Besides, the blankets felt so good. So warm. "Come on, Keith. Try some of this hot soup. It'll help. Come on."

Keith turned, started to raise up.

"Easy now, Son." Uncle Henry spoke this time. Back of him stood the doctor. "Doc here just got through putting that ankle in a cast. You're gonna be laid up a few days. Bad break."

Keith looked from one to the other.

"Maybe even through Thanksgiving," Aunt Mary said, "but you're going to be all right. That's the main thing."

Dr. Phillips said his goodbyes. Uncle Henry walked with him to the porch and Aunt Mary took the soup bowl back to the kitchen. Keith looked around the room. Grinned. Slipped down under the blankets. Sure was nice to have a home, he thought. A warm, dry home.

Again he slept.

"She could see the abandoned service station where the gas explosion had taken place."

Angie placed the plump, golden brown turkey on the big dining room table, next to the cranberry sauce. For color. She walked slowly around her brother's place, locked her hands over the back of the chair, and stood staring at the plate she never expected to be used.

"Come on, Angie." Mrs. Watson breezed in from the kitchen with the hot candied yams. "We've no time to waste. Get the rolls and the butter."

"Oh, Mother. It's no use. Riehard's not going to eat with us and you know it. All this pretense is just making it worse." Angie watched her mother closely. For a moment—the tiniest of moments—her face clouded. Then the shadow was gone.

"Well, dear," Mrs. Watson put the yams on the table and then poked a spoon in them. "You may be right. But it's a special day and we've got to keep trying. We've always had family dinner together on Thanksgiving, and this isn't going to be any different. I've been praying that Richard will voluntarily come down out of that room. Praying and believing. Pour his tea. And remember, plenty of ice."

"But, Mother, it's the anniversary of his accident. We've tried and tried to break through his shell. For a year.

Nothing's worked. Even the doctors have given up."

Angie followed her mother into the kitchen.

"I want him to respond as much as you. It breaks my heart watching him sit in that room day after day, like a zombie. Just staring out the window. Never smiling. Never speaking to any of us. Yes, it hurts. But it hurts me even more to watch you trying and pleading with him. And to hear you praying in the night. Mom, surely it'd be better if all of us faced up to reality."

Mrs. Watson pushed a strand of hair from her brow. Beyond the sink, out through the kitchen window, she could see the abandoned service station where the gas explosion had taken place. Once more the sound and Riehard's body flying through the air.

Angie, now sixteen and almost as tall, moved up behind her mother and slipped an arm around her waist.

"We've got to, Mother. Riehard may never be well. The doctors know that. And all the plastic surgery in the world can't help Richard's mind, or his will, or whatever it is that's been blown away. He wants to be left alone. That's obvious. Maybe we should let him."

"No, Angie." Mrs. Watson turned, pushed Angie's arm away, and reached for the

bun warmer. "Richard's frightened. Puzzled. Maybe hurt. But there's nothing wrong with his mind. He's beginning to come out. I see it in his eyes. I feel it when he looks at me. I believe he's better. It's the silence that puzzles him. The quiet that makes it hard to understand. But he feels our love. He knows we're family. And one of these days his shell will crack wide open. I dreamed about it. Like the Lord answering me. And I won't give up."

Angie sighed.

"Do you know how often you've said that, Mother?"

"Oh," Mrs. Watson shrugged her thin shoulders, "a hundred times or so."

"A thousand times, Mother. At least a thousand." Angie kissed her mother on the cheek. "All right. Is Dad going to make him come down? Or, is it your time?"

"Your father. He's up there now." She glanced at her wrist watch. "My goodness! We've only five minutes. I told Jess twelve noon. Promptly. We'd better finish the table."

She went out, rolls and butter in hand.

Angie got matches from the cabinet drawer and followed, methodically lighting the two white candles on the table.

"Sit down, Angie. I'll call them."

Mrs. Watson walked to the

The Silent Thanks

Eddie Vernon



foot of the stairs. "Jess! We're ready!" Then, like a little girl at a birthday party, she ran back to her place at the table, sat down and started praying silently, eyes closed.

Angie prayed too. But she stared at the stairs, visible just through the living room, and her prayer was for her mother as well as her brother.

Mr. Watson came slowly into view, leading Richard by the hand. Angie looked at the scarred face. Eyebrow and

hair missing from the left side. Mouth set. Eyes darting first left and then right. Like a trapped animal. Only fourteen, he looked old as twenty, Angie thought.

They came to the head of the table and stopped.

"Richard, we . . ." There was no need for Mr. Watson to speak but it was something they all kept forgetting. He pointed to the table.

Richard stood for a moment, looking at candles, turkey,

all the lavishly prepared food. He slowly moved around to his place, drew back the chair and sat down. He looked at Mr. Watson. At his mother. Angie. His lips drew back from teeth and braces. Just the hint of a smile.

Then, lifting his right hand, Richard pointed an index finger toward heaven.

Angie saw it through her tears. It was the most beautiful thanksgiving prayer of all.



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Yesterday's Youth / Debbie Patterson

Where Are They Now?

YESTERDAY (1962)
*The year is '62. Place,
 Memphis, Tennessee.
 Occasion, the Forty-ninth
 General Assembly
 of the Church of God.
 Let's take a closer look.*

James Cross is completing his four years as General Overseer, succeeded by Wade Horton. Cecil B. Knight is National Youth and Christian Education Director, with Don Aultman assisting. Teen Talent is a new program.

Looking even closer, we see a name: Kenneth Beard. Home church, Flint, Michigan. Ken is a Teen Talent winner, enjoying the sights of Memphis, riding the old riverboat, complaining of the heat. He is second runner-up in a competitive category called Song Leading.

Well . . .

Whatever happened to Kenneth Beard?

Where is he now?

Some research . . . and . . .
 . . . Presto! . . . Here's
 Kenneth Beard.

TODAY (1978)

Kenneth Beard is a practicing dentist in Cleveland, Tennessee. He's married to Judy Owens and they have three children:

Brian (10), Darliah (8), and Blake (2 months).

Ken came from Michigan to Cleveland via Lee College for three years, some make-up courses back home, and then dental school at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

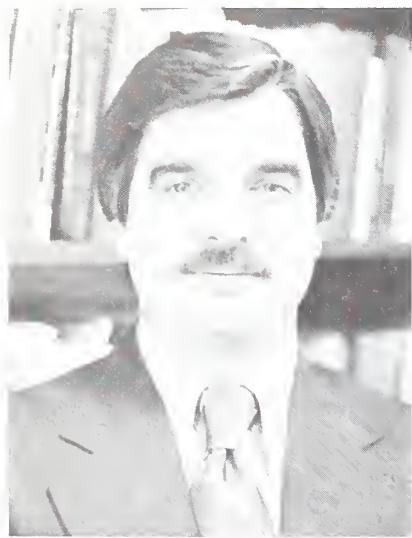
He first hung out his medical shingle in Chattanooga (1971), moving to Cleveland two years later.

Ken belongs to the Westmore Church of God. He serves as assistant teacher of a youth class, and he just finished a term on the Church and Pastor's Council.

When asked about the Teen Talent program, Ken noted, "Naturally, it was far more important then than now. So much has happened I'd almost forgotten. But a man never really knows how much influence such a moment has on his life."

"I'm happy we have Teen Talent. Perhaps my own children will be involved one day."





THE MUSIC CONFERENCE

"For young people, for pastors, for anyone really interested in music, it's going to be an exciting time. One of the best things we've ever done."

That's what program coordinator David Horton said of the upcoming Church Music Conference scheduled for December 27-29, 1978, on the Lee College campus.

Point of fact, it's the second such conference—the first having been held three years ago—and it's generating interest from all over the U. S.

"One word characterizes what we're after," Dr. Horton said. "Ministry. We're emphasizing the ministry of music. It's full scope. From pastor's role as chief shepherd, to choir, to special singers and instrumentalists. As a church, we've known for years that God works marvelously through music. Now we're coming to appreciate more fully the importance of our personal roles in the ministry of music.

"Local churches are looking for music directors. Skilled and knowledgeable young men and women who can yield

themselves to the move of God's Spirit and who can truly minister through this medium. The Music Conference is designed to help. On every level."

There's an impressive list of guests. Bill Gaither, Ralph Carmichael, The Speer Family, Danniebelle Hall, The Churchmen, Steve Brock, Max Morris, Lee Singers, Vep Ellis, Bennie Triplett, Connor Hall and the Homeland Harmony Quartet. And others.

There's also the serious note. Reverend Ray H. Hughes, general overseer, will deliver a major address at Friday night's Festival of Praise. Reverend T. L. Lowery will speak on the opening night.

Seminars have been structured to aid beginning and advanced musicians in every category: choir directors, piano and organ, brass, woodwind, strings, songwriting, children's music. There's a seminar especially for pastors and one designed for teens preparing to compete in Teen Talent.

The timing may necessitate some special planning. Just after Christmas. However, that's when the Lee Campus is available. That's when many people do some vacationing. And that's certainly a good time for spiritual inventory, for setting church goals, and for preparing to enter '79 with a planned music ministry.

Cost of the conference is a bargain. Only \$60 for everything, including lodging, meals, and registration. The seminars and concerts without lodging and meals cost \$35.

Many churches plan to send choir directors or key music personnel. It's a lovely Christmas gift. Some parents will do the same for their children.

Even if you pay your own way, it's going to be worth it.

MARCUS HAND ASSUMES NEW POST

By Floyd Carey



After eighteen successful years of teaching young people about missions and involving them in raising money for missions projects, Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA) has a full-time coordinator, the Reverend Marcus Hand. Coming to YWEA from his position as editor of missions publications, *Brother* Hand embodies the ideal combination of qualities for the new post.

Experienced in journalism, design, and visual media, Marcus is also in touch with missions and is up-to-date on developments in the Church of God worldwide. Most important, he has both the desire and the ability to share the challenge of world evangelism with Church of God young people.

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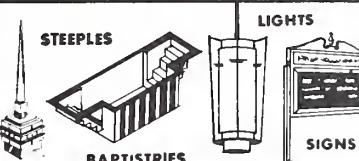
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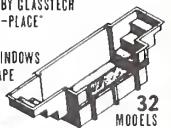
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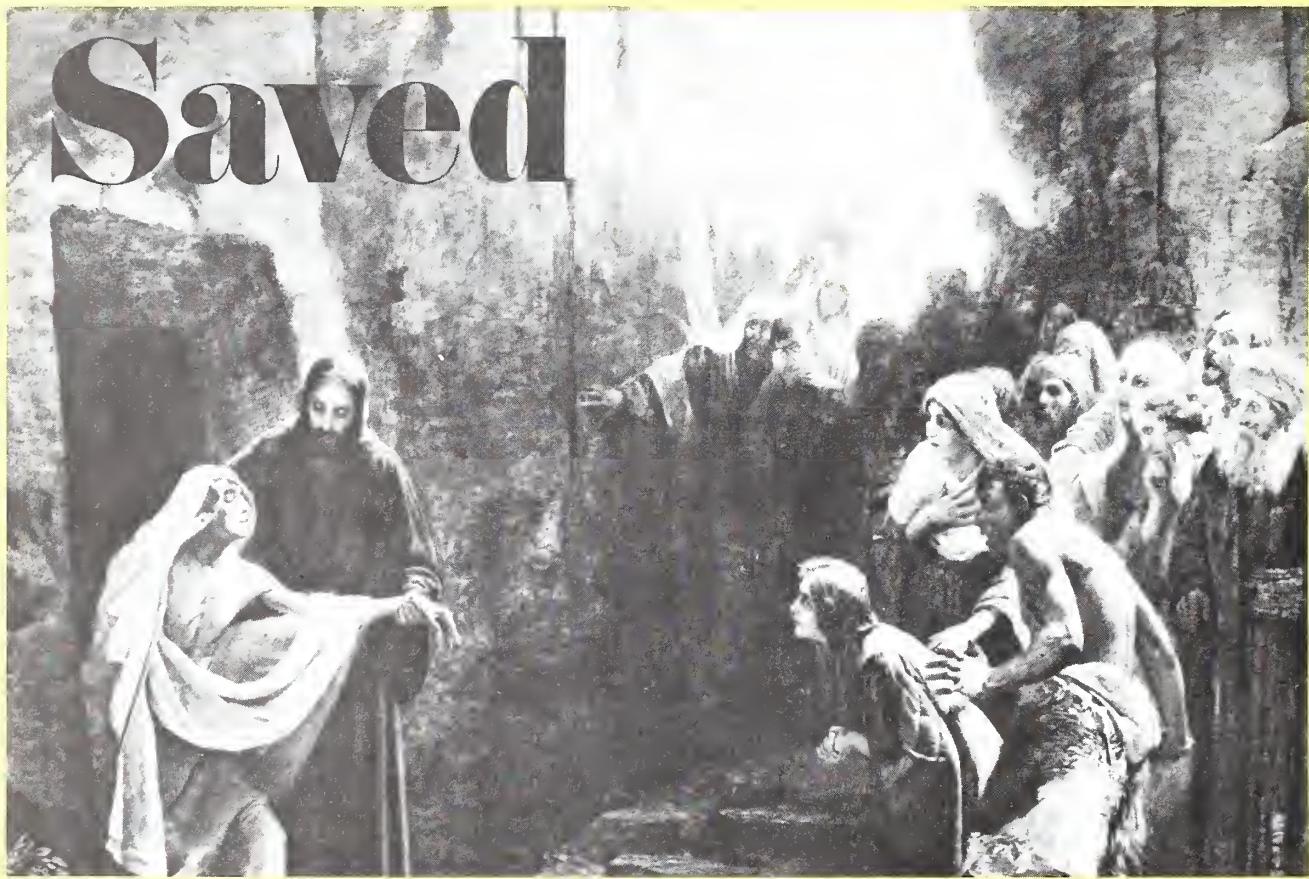
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Call of the Master / Irma Williams



H. Armstrong Roberts Photo

I would like to ask you two very pointed questions. Have you been saved from sin?

Have you been saved from the power of sin?

These questions are related, but they are not the same.

When Jesus called Lazarus from the grave, Lazarus came forth. There was life in him, but he was bound by grave clothes. Lazarus needed to be delivered of his present bondage so that he could be free—free to walk, to run, and to move. Even though he stood there with life pulsating through his body, he could not free himself. Someone needed to "loose him."

You may be just as bound by the subtle influence of friends, by the pressures of your peers, and by the pull for popularity. If so, then you need someone to help you become free.

Someone helped Lazarus. Once free, he then had the privilege of dining at the same banquet table with Jesus. He enjoyed divine friendship. Just think, once he was dead; then he was alive and made free.

Do you need deliverance from sin's power? If so, then it's wonderful to know that Jesus breaks every fetter, every chain, every vice, every evil force, every corruption, every influence, and every pull.

Today, you can experience life and freedom in Christ Jesus. He was bound that you might be free, free from sin's power, free to live for Him and in Him. Simply bring your will to Him. Do not trust your emotions. Do not go by how you feel. In time, your emotions will line up with your will. Satan has no place in a child of God; Satan has no power over a child of God. Be free.

"Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world"
(1 John 4:4).

Grace



Hoyt E. Stone

When mushroom clouds snuffed out the final sparks of World War II and the wounded crawled home and politicians devised a new formula of aid called The Marshall Plan, this boy who now writes heard grown men say, "Get ready for it. World War III is on the way."

And as a boy during the late forties, I worried some about that.

When Douglas MacArthur was fired and Truman ridiculed and the Koreans fought each other to a standstill, I was draft age and heard repeatedly that my destiny lay somewhere along the 38th parallel, one more victim of man's inscrutable bent toward self-destruction.

And there were times when, alone on my pillow at night, I thought about that, too. And worried. During the fifties.

When fire gutted Watts and hippies proliferated and students demonstrated and blacks marched and professors proclaimed God dead and His church irrelevant, I was a parent trying to stretch dollars and wondering how I'd feel (no . . . knowing how I'd feel, though maybe not brave enough to say it aloud) if called upon to sacrifice a son in Vietnam for a cause unknown.

I worried as a parent. Most do. That was during the sixties.

On ashes of war, Lyndon Johnson created for us the illusion of the Great Society. Richard Nixon sent tennis players to China openly and government agents to Watergate secretly and the top blew off the oval office because men turned out to be

men. Oil sheiks learned to say "money" and inflation headed into orbit and terrorists got brave enough to bomb children.

Now, the gloss of education has tarnished and the government can't pay its bills and our friends abroad don't want dollars and the finest hope of the Bible Belt and every born-again Christian seems unable to solve our problems.

It is at this point—eyes open, realistically—that I come to Thanksgiving, 1978; and, upon examining heart and soul, it is here that I find new evidence of grace.

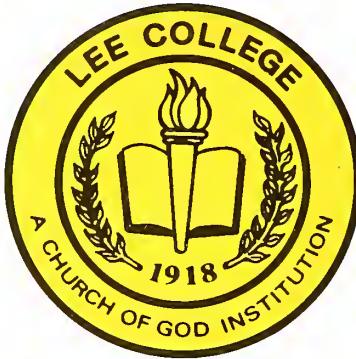
I should be afraid, and am not. I ought to despair, but do not. Life could be bitter, and isn't. Hope has reason to die, but won't.

In human or philosophical terms, I find this state of mind hard to believe. Impossible to explain! I see a side of myself I didn't always know existed; and, no matter how poorly it compares with others, it is at the same time so far advanced, so much matured, so gloriously fashioned when set alongside that previously mentioned boy and young parent that I stand amazed.

My soul and my faith—these confirm a continuing miracle of grace and these reveal the paradoxical nature of God's kingdom among us.

And for this, I'm thankful most of all.

HOME COMING



1978

NOVEMBER 23-25



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Thursday

- 2:00 p.m.—Homecoming game
- 5:30 p.m.—DeCapo Music Club
- 6:30 p.m.—Alumni reception
- 8:00 p.m.—Music Festival

Friday

- 11:30 a.m.—Shotgun Tee-Off Golf Tournament
- Afternoon—Racket Rivalry Alumni Tennis Tournament
- 6:00 p.m.—Turkey Invitational Basketball Tournament

Saturday

- Afternoon—Racket Rivalry Alumni Tennis Tournament
- 6:00 p.m.—Turkey Invitational Basketball Tournament

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- Class of 1968
- Class of 1958
- Class of 1948
- Class of 1938
- Class of 1928
- Class of 1918

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*Meetings of state chapters and students

*Special recognition of Outstanding Alumnus of 1978

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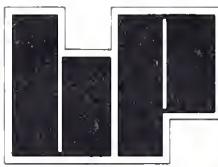


Guiding Youth

Lighted Pathway

Vol. 49, No. 12

*Christmas in Europe,
with Dianne Walker page 3*

MEMBER **epta** EVANGELICAL PRESS ASSOCIATION**Index****FEATURE**

- "Christmas in Europe," with Dianne Walker 3

CHRISTMAS

- Most Wanted Gifts 6
 The Christmas Story, from Luke 7
 Someone's Birthday, Bill Hopper 8
 First Christmas (Poem), Earle J. Grant 9

STORIES

- The Inspired Whim, Lyla Reece 10
 The Unregistered Guest, Bart Green 12

CHRISTMAS SERMON

- From Beyond the Stars, Hoyt E. Stone 14

NEWS & ACTIVITIES

- Action News and Views, Youth Department 17
 Room 774: Behind the Scenes 18
 Project: Africa, Marcus Hand 20
 A Quiet Place, Sonja Lee Deming 22
 Word Quiz, Lori Larson 23
 Something to Think About, Staff 24

CALL OF THE MASTER

- The Search for Meaning, Benny Pitman 26

EDITORIAL

- Beyond the Trappings 27

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Most of this month's material revolves, quite naturally, around the Christmas theme. It is devotional; we trust, inspiring.

Room 774 is a look at the National Youth and Christian Education Department, behind the scenes. An attempt to show how programs originate. We've introduced a Bible word quiz. Will be running them for at least a year.

Also, there's a new approach to the news: "Something to Think About." We aren't a news magazine. Production and scheduling forbid it. What we're attempting is to bring you issues. News with a message; or news with a timeless idea interwoven.

Let us know how you feel.

Note, too, that there's a subscription card inserted. We want the *Lighted Pathway* to have a place in your home. It's a big bargain now, and we're going to try to make it even better.

We welcome your comments.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Church of God Computer Center needs an experienced programmer with background in Univac 90/30 system and knowledge of COBOL and RPG. Contact Mr. John Nelson, Church of God Computer Center, Pan Southern Building, 1441 Guthrie Drive, Cleveland, TN 37311 (615-472-3361).



"A Bavarian Church"



I've known Dianne since she was a teenager in youth camp—a teenager who, by the way, could knock a softball farther than most boys and who had a passion for horses—so maybe I'm to be forgiven if I expected more of the "little girl" and less of the poised and liberated woman who came to my office for an interview.

Dianne lacks an inch being six feet tall, a fact she doesn't try to hide and something you notice only when standing alongside. She's blond. Smiles easily, with nice teeth. Speaks with fiber in her voice, handling questions adroitly.

"Winters in Germany . . . well . . . they're more like the State of Washington, I suppose, than Cleveland. One year the ground stayed covered with snow for more than two months, but that was an exception."

Dianne Walker

The people? Not on the military base but in town?

"Very jolly, gregarious, outgoing during Christmas and other holidays. Serious otherwise. I lived for six months with one German family and loved it. Made some wonderful friends. Hope to return for a visit one of these days."

"What stands out most, I suppose, is the family orientation at Christmas. Everyone gets involved, first with the parties and community festivals just before Advent, and then with social activities of the religious calendar."

CONTINUED

Feature

Dianne looks past me, out the window, as if she's in Germany once again.

"Christmas officially opens on St. Nicholas Eve, December 5. Children are visited by St. Nick or by Kneeht Ruprscht, his assistant, who brings candy or a small gift if they've been good. In some parts of Germany, children place shoes or stockings beside their beds or outside their doors. They sometimes go caroling, just as we do, and people give them candy and fruit. St. Nicholas is something of a preliminary Christmas."

"Also you see a lot of the Advent Wreath. These are hung horizontally, usually with four candles representing the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Some people use a candle for every day but I mostly saw four."

"When the first candle is lit, the family is reminded of the faint glimmer of prophecy that promised the Savior's

birth. With the second candle, there's a study of further prophecy. Then the third and fourth until the light of the world is come."

"Advent refers to the Lord's coming in two other aspects as well: the growing light of faith as the gospel is communicated, and the multiplying signs of His second return."

"What about trees, Dianne? Christmas trees?"

"Oh yes. But they never trim the trees early, as we do. That comes on December 24, and it's done by the head of the family. In secret. Decorations are mostly white and silver, illuminated by real candles. Not electric bulbs. The gifts are placed under the tree, as well as a colored plate with cookies, nuts, and candy. Also, there's almost always a festive meal Christmas Eve night."

"Once the candles on the tree are lit, children are invited into the room. They usually

sing a carol or two and then pass out gifts."

"In Germany there are two Christmas days: first holiday and second. The first, December 25, is a family day spent at home with festive dinner. The second, December 26, is for visiting friends."

"I take it you spent most of your European Christmases at the Military Recreation Centers where you worked."

"Yes."

"Any USO Shows for the boys away from home?"

"Oh yes. But Bob Hope never came." There was that laugh again. Open and free.

"What was your best Christmas project? Your most exciting Christmas in terms of personal satisfaction?"

"Oh . . . I don't know. Probably the year I helped Brother Kenospi prepare gifts for imprisoned American soldiers."

"We got to thinking how lonely it must be to spend



Dianne poses in parents' living room with German artifacts. Photos at right: Dianne and friends at Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial, Winter '72. Christmas at Coffey Recreation Center.—One of Dianne's own paintings.—With German Grandfather clock and wearing a German dress.

Christmas behind bars and in a strange country. First we went to the Military Police for a list of American soldiers sentenced to German penitentiaries. There were fourteen names, their sentences ranging from two years to life.

"Then we wrote American manufacturers and corporations for free samples of their products, telling them our plan to give gifts to the prisoners. The response was wonderful. Also, we purchased some small items of our own: flashlight keychains, clothes brushes, fountain pens, pocket calendars, rulers, books, Bibles.

"Brother Kenospi wrote the prison officials, explaining the purpose of our visit and asking permission to give the gifts to the men.

"One of the men touched me especially. He only lacked three days completing his military service when he killed a German National and

was sentenced for life.

"For me . . . that was a good Christmas. A very good Christmas. I felt I did something meaningful, you know."

"You glad to be home?"

"Yeah."

"Back in the States I should say."

Dianne shrugs. "It's nice being with my parents. And my sister, Crystal." She leans forward, as if to stand. "You're welcome to come look at my album. The pictures, mementos, all the little souvenirs."

We both stand.

"What's next for you, Dianne? Your plans?"

"More school. I'm preparing now for my Graduate Record Exams. Didn't take them in Europe. Hope to be accepted in January."

H. E. S.



Dianne Walker

was born to missionary parents three days after Christmas, 1948, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Though raised in the United States, her life has been colored by something of an international flavor.

Following high school, Lee College, a year of employment as a public school teacher, and a year as eligibility caseworker for the Department of Public Welfare in Bradley County, Tennessee, Dianne joined her parents, Herbert and Lucille Walker, once again beyond U. S. borders. This time she went to Europe, where, in conjunction with her father's church appointment as Missions Superintendent, she visited England, France, Italy, Holland, Yugoslavia, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Russia, East Germany, Rumania, Bulgaria, Sweden, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Belgium, and Germany.

Germany, of course, was home base; and it was there that Dianne settled in to spend the next six years of her life and to become—certainly among this magazine's readership—an authority on European life.

Dianne's first job was volunteer youth leader for Protestant youth at the Pattonville Military Chapel, Stuttgart. She assisted the chaplain with weekly Bible studies and social activities for military dependents, taught VBS classes, worked in a coffeehouse ministry, and prepared art work and publicity items for religious retreats. She also planned and supervised a two-week summer camping trip to Spain for sixty young people and counselors, in cooperation with another youth group.

Then came a job with pay: \$1.83 per hour as a Recreation Aide at a military center in Ludwigsburg. For the next nine months Dianne planned tours, ordered supplies, kept an inventory of stock, planned monthly program activities with such proficiency that the area supervisor asked her to apply for a promotion.

The promotion came in the form of Recreation Specialist Program Director at the Kaserne Recreation Center. Other promotions followed regularly as Dianne moved to yet larger centers. She finally supervised a staff of twelve full-time and eleven part-time employees, hiring and training, planning, evaluating. And with an envious five-figure salary.

Meanwhile, she had studied German at the Bad Kreuznach Educational Center, preparatory to enrollment at Ball State University, European Division at Ramstein. In November 1977, Dianne received her master's degree with a major in counseling. She is presently employed as a part-time counselor at a community mental health center.

H. E. S.



Most Wanted GIFTS



FOR MOTHERS

- A kiss from a son.
- Three little words, spoken softly, "I love you."
- A daughter's help in the kitchen.
- A quiet moment for meditation and the privilege of communion with God.
- A "thank-you" when the meal is over.
- A letter that begins "I realize now how much you and Dad loved me. . . ."
- A phone call, long distance . . . "Merry Christmas."

FOR DADS

- A day of rest.
- The privilege of sitting at the head of the table.
- Opportunity to walk into church with wife and children behind him.
- A hug from his daughter.
- Three hours of private conversation with a grown son.
- A set of tennis, a hike in the woods, or a rabbit hunting trip with a teenage son.

FOR A YOUNG MAN

- A mom who says, "How are things?" Then listens.
- A dad who says yes rather than no.
- A brother who plays checkers or chess.
- A sister who will sit and talk.
- An allowance of his own.
- Some choice in where to go.
- A sincere compliment.
- A day without criticism.

FOR A YOUNG WOMAN

- Freedom to purchase her own dress.
- The words, "You're a woman now. . . ."
- A night out, no sermons afterwards.
- A closet of her own.
- A brother who doesn't joke about her boyfriend.
- Some money for shopping.
- A guarantee of privacy in terms of room, letters, and the choice of friends.
- A vacation of her own.

FOR A CHILD

- A room to play in and mess up.
- Someone to read or tell a Bible story.
- A book to write in.
- A suggested activity other than television.
- A lap to sit on.
- A big hug and a kiss on the cheek.
- A request for help from someone older.
- Something to give away.

FOR A FRIEND

- A personalized Christmas card.
- An invitation to share and get involved in a meaningful project or relationship.
- A chum who won't gossip.
- Peers who don't laugh.
- An honest look in the eye.

The Christmas Story, from Luke

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered,

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. . . ."

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee in Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in strips of cloth and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

(Luke 1:26-35;
2:1-14; *New International Version*)

SOMEONE'S BIRTHDAY

W.L. (BILL) HOPPER

My birthday was coming up, and those who knew about it were getting ready to celebrate.

For days I had seen them making preparations. They knew I liked music, so they played lots of music. But, instead of the music I liked, they played the kind I couldn't stand. I was puzzled!

I had hoped that the celebration would be held in my house, but they held it in a place I didn't want to go. After all, it was my birthday, so why did I not have a say in the arrangements? They knew the type of food and drinks I liked but they served things I could not, or would not, eat.

Then the celebration got under way. They gave gifts. Lots of gifts. Expensive gifts. But in-

stead of giving them to me, they gave them to one another. How rude, I thought. It's MY birthday. Why is everyone else getting gifts and I am getting none? In fact, they seemed oblivious of my very presence.

I kept trying to bring the subject up, but someone was always introducing new ways to celebrate, and new ways to have fun. It seemed to me they just wanted to celebrate without regard to what the celebration was about. Food was passed around. No one offered me anything. Drinks flowed freely; and, even though they were not my kind of drinks, no one even offered me anything.

I kept trying to get attention by shouting, "Hey! It's my birthday." No one paid any attention. Finally I went away, and I'm sure they never knew I had gone.

It was a great celebration. Well attended. Everyone seemed to have fun. Although they all acknowledged that the celebration was in honor of my birthday, they never even knew I was around.

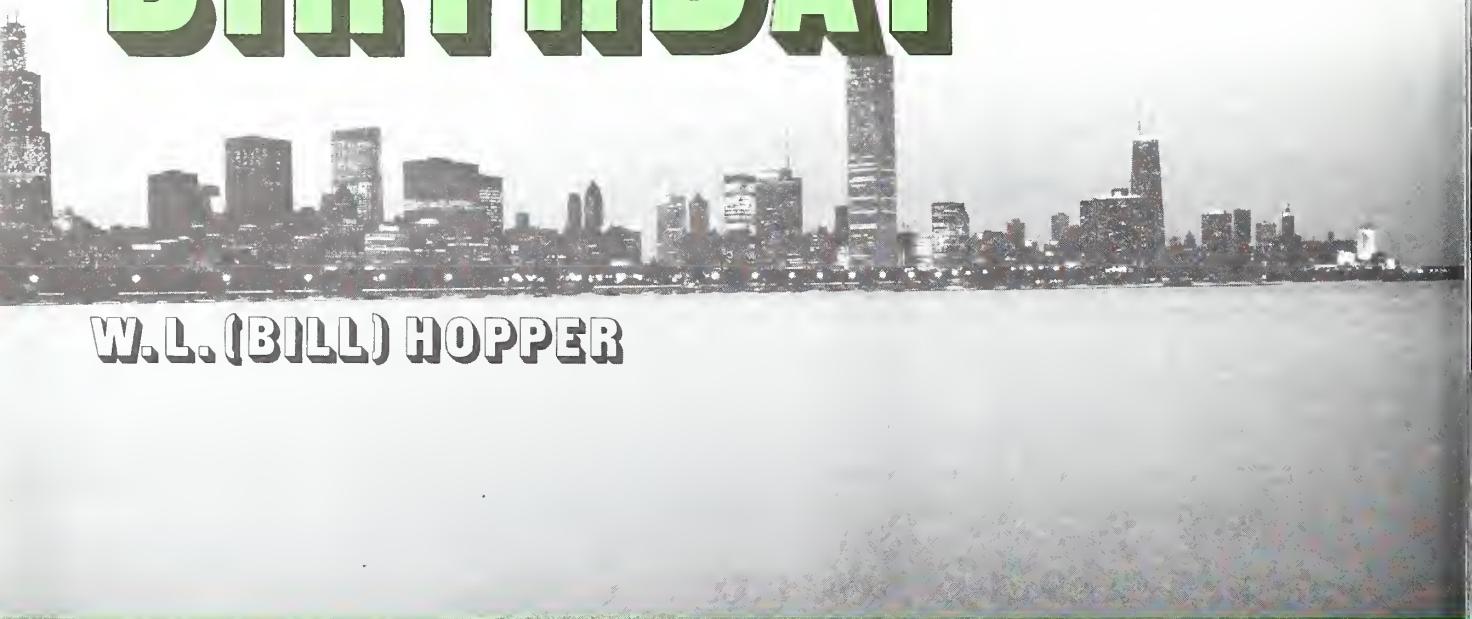
How foolish, I thought. Why celebrate a birthday and pay no attention to the one whose birthday is being celebrated?

I was reminded that this was not the first time such a thing had happened. In fact, it happens every year. You would think I'd soon get used to it, but somehow I keep hoping, wishing, and dreaming that this time will be different.

Some day I'm sure it will be. For now, I'm just the forgotten man who is having a birthday.

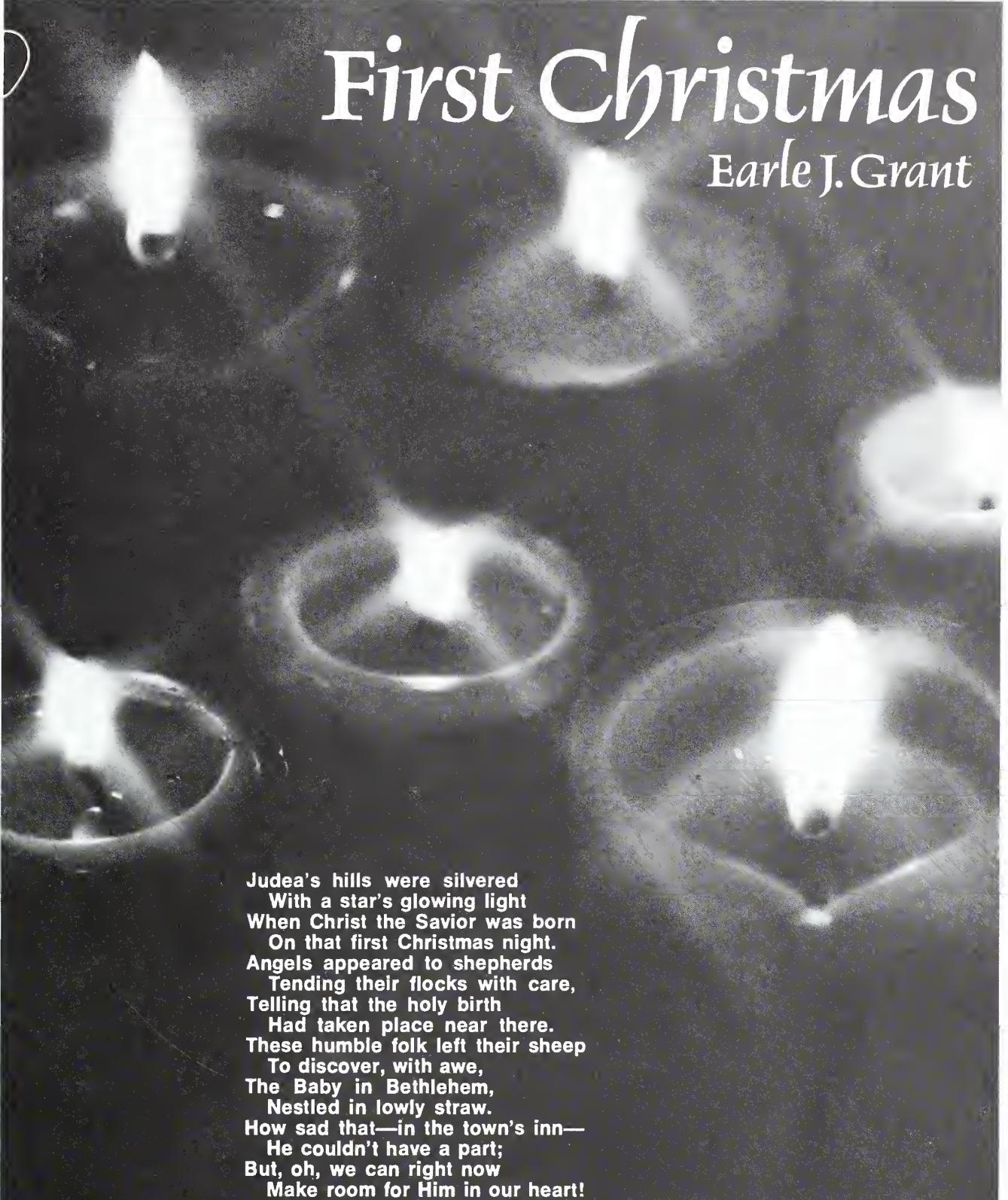
Signed,
You know who!

H. Armstrong Roberts Photo



First Christmas

Earle J. Grant



Judea's hills were silvered
With a star's glowing light
When Christ the Savior was born
On that first Christmas night.
Angels appeared to shepherds
Tending their flocks with care,
Telling that the holy birth
Had taken place near there.
These humble folk left their sheep
To discover, with awe,
The Baby in Bethlehem,
Nestled in lowly straw.
How sad that—in the town's inn—
He couldn't have a part;
But, oh, we can right now
Make room for Him in our heart!

Camerique Photo



One week before Christmas, Bonnie Epperly stopped at a roadside flea market west of Florida City, browsed through a half dozen tables of cast-off society rubble, and bought a rusty iron skillet.

Bonnie wasn't a young lady who normally cared for flea markets—after all, where she'd been reared on a farm in North Georgia, there had been antiques enough to last a lifetime—and yet, prompted by a whim, she

The Inspired Whim

Lyla Reece

was now thirty minutes late, three dollars poorer, and the owner of something for which she had absolutely no earthly need.

There wasn't room for the skillet among all the Christmas presents stacked in back of her little sports car, so she jammed it up under the seat on the passenger side, and drove southwest, down Route 27, into the everglades.

Bonnie enjoyed the road, straight as an arrow with very little traffic. She had now made the drive at least once a week for almost six months and she knew it was one of the things she'd miss upon returning to school and her Bible studies.

Bonnie planned on being a missionary. It was something she had known for eight years, since she was twelve. She had her application before the Missions Board now, and she hoped her assignment would be Haiti. This work among the Seminoles had been her own idea, sort of an internship. Her parents agreed to fund the experiment partly because they shared her concern for missions and partly because, if she were not really called, they wanted her to find out now. Not down in Haiti.

Bonnie grinned. Good ole practical Dad, she thought. Not one for wasting anything. Time or money. And her mother's advice, "Honey, if you can't win souls to the Lord here, I doubt your being able to do it elsewhere."

Bonnie slowed the car. According to the odometer, she was almost to the turnoff. One had to be careful. The road was left of the highway, overgrown with cypress and palms.

She turned and followed a narrow dirt trail for almost a mile until she came to a hand-painted wooden sign nailed to a

tree, "The Smiths." Beyond, she entered a clearing bounded on four sides with giant cypresses, their branches interlocking to where there was never much rain and very little sunshine.

The clearing was a high spot with swamp all around. In the middle was a thatched-roof hut, floored but without walls, divided into a living section on the left and a sleeping section on the right. Grannie, Joe's mother, slept in the main bunk, nearest to the circle of rocks where the family built fires and did the cooking. Joe and Maliena had a private nook with curtains that could be dropped, and the four children used raised bunks or else slept out on the open tables where it was easy to take their grass-filled mattresses.

The kids came running, swarming over Bonnie before she could get out of the car. Joe waved from his wooden rowboat. Maliena smiled. Grannie, as usual, sat frozen on her wooden box, never in any way acknowledging Bonnie's existence.

Grannie was Bonnie's one disappointment. In the beginning, Bonnie had told herself Grannie would eventually come around. It would take patience and love. Maybe a little time. On the few occasions when she had spoken to Bonnie, Grannie had said she worshiped the Great Spirit. "White man's God no good for Indian. Kill. Steal. Ruin beautiful river garden." Mostly, Grannie just sat, unresponsive.

Bonnie had about given up. She spent her time with the children, teaching them to read and sharing Bible lessons. They had made a great deal of progress, too. And, periodically, Joe and Maliena joined them for a time of praise, Bible reading, and song. None of it affected Grannie.

Bonnie had promised Christmas presents. The children

helped her carry the packages to the long outdoor table, laying them out in a row. Joe came from the boat. Bonnie held up each gift, reading names aloud as if she didn't know already which belonged to whom.

The presents had come from her home church: a hunting knife for Joe, shoes for Maliena, toys for the children, and a shawl for Grannie. Bonnie took the shawl, unwrapped, and placed it in Grannie's lap. Not one trace of emotion; not even the blink of an eye.

"Merry Christmas," Bonnie said.

Grannie stared across the clearing, out into what Bonnie suspected was the past of her life. Oh well, Bonnie thought, so much for Grannie.

It was when Bonnie returned to the car for her accordion, so they could sing Christmas carols, that she saw the skillet and had another whim. Bonnie lifted the skillet, wiped it with a head scarf, and walked over to Grannie.

Only Grannie's eyes moved, watching Bonnie approach. Bonnie held out the skillet, arms length. Very slowly the old Indian woman reached for it and laid it in her lap.

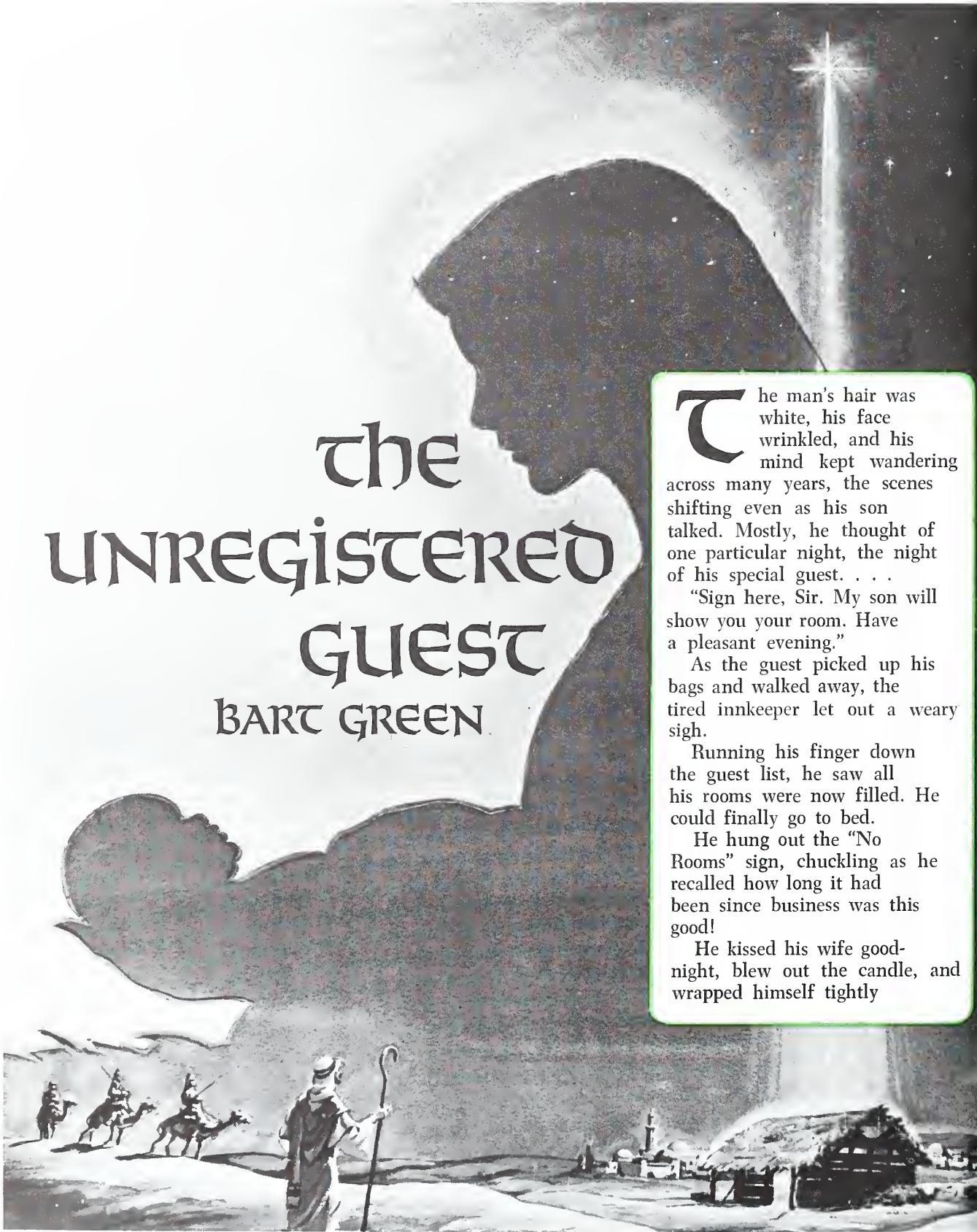
"How did you know?" Maliena asked.

"Know what?"

"That Grannie wanted a skillet. Hers dropped in the river last time we moved. Now she can do her own cooking again. Look at her."

Grannie stood, turning the skillet first one way, then another. She walked over and placed it on the rocks where the fire smoldered. Then, looking right at Bonnie, Grannie said, "Merry Christmas."

"Merry Christmas, Grannie," Bonnie said. She turned to Maliena. "It must have been the Holy Spirit."



the UNREGISTERED GUEST

BART GREEN

The man's hair was white, his face wrinkled, and his mind kept wandering across many years, the scenes shifting even as his son talked. Mostly, he thought of one particular night, the night of his special guest. . . .

"Sign here, Sir. My son will show you your room. Have a pleasant evening."

As the guest picked up his bags and walked away, the tired innkeeper let out a weary sigh.

Running his finger down the guest list, he saw all his rooms were now filled. He could finally go to bed.

He hung out the "No Rooms" sign, chuckling as he recalled how long it had been since business was this good!

He kissed his wife good-night, blew out the candle, and wrapped himself tightly

against the cold. Ah, now for a night of rest.

But just as he drifted off to sleep, a sudden knock on the front door.

"Didn't you hang the sign on the door?" his wife asked.

"Yes," he answered.

"Yes, I did!"

The knocks became louder.

"You'd best see who it is, Husband. Before the guests are disturbed."

Annoyed, the innkeeper arose with his blanket about his shoulders and went down the stairs.

He yanked open the door. "Are you illiterate as well as rude? Can't you see we are full? Can't you see that. . . ."

His words choked off as his eyes rested upon a man and young woman whose face bore signs of pain!

"Please, sir," the man said. "I wish no ill upon you, and I see you haven't any room, but it's my wife. She will give birth soon. She needs a place to rest!"

The innkeeper placed his blanket around the young woman.

"I'm sorry. Truly sorry. Any other night my inn would be almost empty. But since the decree, every inn for miles has been full. I wish there were something I could do."

The innkeeper's wife stepped out.

"You must find a place for her, Husband. I know the pain. She must get off that donkey and lie down."

"Surely, Sir, you must have a barn. Or livery. Yes, your inn must have a livery! My wife says the child comes soon."

The innkeeper said, "Yes, we have a livery. Wife, fetch our son. Have him move the cow and prepare a bed of hay. I hope it will do."

It's the best I can offer!"

The innkeeper and his wife tried to make the couple comfortable. They even waited up with them; but the innkeeper, overcome with weariness, rested his head against a beam and fell asleep.

A cry of pain awoke him. A child was born.

Everyone breathed a sign of relief. The father wrapped the child warmly and laid him lovingly in a hay-filled box.

The innkeeper stared at the baby and said, "What a lovely child." To the mother he said, "It's a fine looking boy."

"Yes, I know."

The innkeeper looked at his wife with a chuckle.

"Looks like we have an unregistered guest."

* * * * *

The old man's thoughts returned to the present. He mumbled, "That was forty-odd years ago, and I remember it as if it were yesterday."

"Father. You awake? For a moment I thought you were gone. Are you all right?"

The old man forced his eyes open. "Yes, Son, I'm all right. Just thinking about the child born in our livery."

"Father, that was long ago. Back when I was a boy."

"Yes. But if I'd known who that child was and what that child would become, I'd have cleared my whole house and given Him the comfort of my own bed."

"Father, they say He was the Son of God, but surely you don't. . . ."

"Yes, Son, I do. I've followed His life. First out of courtesy to His parents. Then out of curiosity and awe. Finally out of respect and love. Everything I've seen and heard leads me to believe God saw fit for His Son, our Savior, to be born in our stable."

"Shhh! Quiet, Father. You mustn't excite yourself. All of this talk is tiring you. Rest."

"Son, I feel fine. And as for resting, I'll be at rest soon enough."

He turned painfully onto his side.

"Son, remember the look on your mother's face when those dirty shepherds came walking in? I was surprised myself. It seemed everybody knew the child was there, no more than an hour after His birth. I remember it like it were yesterday!"

"Father, if you must talk, let's also remember the Romans killed Him!"

"Oh, I remember. Your mother and I were there. We felt for Him as if He were our own son."

"Well, if they killed Him, He couldn't be the Son of God!"

"Don't be so sure, Son. He was a man of kindness. Wisdom. Such as I've never seen. As your mother and I watched Him die that day, He turned to one of the thieves and said, 'Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise.'"

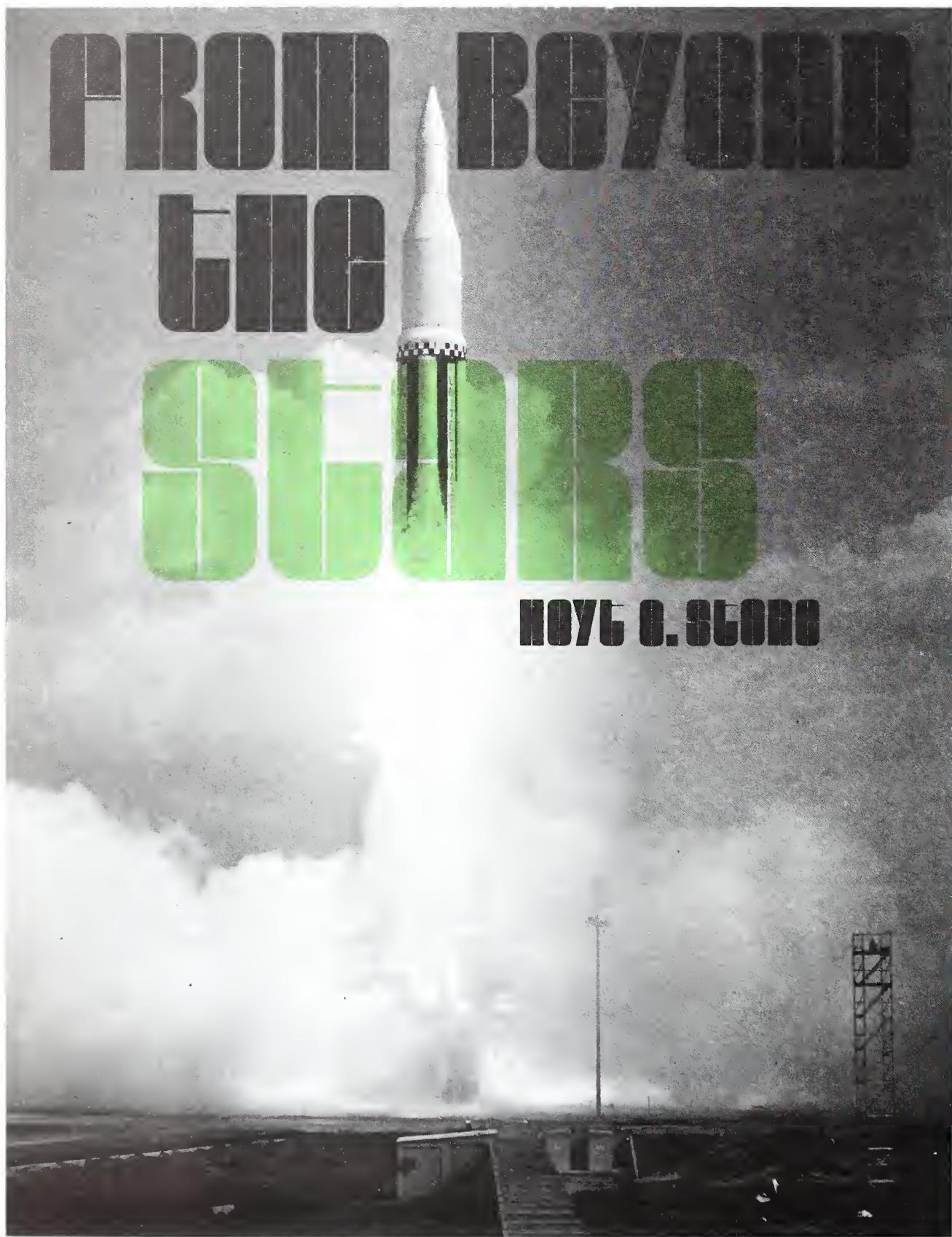
"Well, Father, answer me this. If He isn't dead, and if He arose like the villagers claim, where is He?"

"Son, all I know is one of His followers heard Him say, 'I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am, there you may be also.'

"I believe He's what He said. I saw the miracle of His birth, and I read the prophecy concerning it."

There was quiet. "Father, are you afraid to die?"

The innkeeper looked up at his son, took his hand, and said, "I gave that child the best I had. In His Paradise, if it is only a stable that He offers me, I will be glad. No. I'm not afraid."



A. Devaney, Inc. Photo

"AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, AND DWELT AMONG US" (John 1:14).

Hen look to the stars.

It was true in Abraham's day. God promised that lonely man of the desert his children would number as the stars.

It was true of the Lord's day. Wise men of the East beheld His star and followed to the place where the Christ child lived.

It is now true for our day. Skeptical men, doubting men, men who recently scoffed at the Bible, men who take pride in their religion of no-religion—even such as these are now focusing on the stars.

Soviet astronauts orbit our planet, in company with many unmanned satellites. *Star Wars* was a major movie of the past year and it is predicted that *Battlestar Galactica* will become this season's hit television program. Books such as *Chariots of the Gods* set forth the idea that beings from outer space may have visited this planet in ages past. UFO sightings continue in spite of government denials.

In fact, more and more people have become and are becoming disillusioned with the promises of this twentieth-century scientific cult; and, with their awakening, they are looking outward, beyond themselves and beyond the former boundaries, for answers to man's dilemma. They are once more looking to the heavens, to the stars.

Some search foolishly.

They superstitiously look to their horoscopes, hoping that in the zodiac will be found signs of the future. They calculate and speculate. They ponder and predict. They tattle "old wives' tales" and think themselves the precursor of new knowledge when, in truth, they but fumble in the darkness where man dwelt a thousand years ago.

Yet others have taken a small step in the right direction: they are looking beyond the mirror, beyond the self, realizing that man's search for truth must lead ultimately to those outer realms.

Examine the matter for yourself. What are the facts? The basics? The ultimates? Surely none can deny three: (1) the fact of creation; (2) the fact of life as we presently know it; and (3) the fact of destiny.

Biologically we have come to be through the normal process of birth. But where did we get our sense of value, our feeling of worth, our basic realization that life is something more than animal existence? How did we become rational? Spiritual? In short, living souls?

We try to make life simple but it won't condense. We try to explain our daily activities in terms of cause and effect, stimuli response, or mere instinct;

and then, deep down we can't agree with our own explanations. Rather, we keep returning to Paul's observation that "no man liveth to himself" and we know that others do matter, life is interrelated, we are all somehow entangled in the process.

And destiny? What are the options? What has man been able to propose, given all his wisdom and his intellect and his computers?

Oblivion. That's what some would have us believe. We are each moving inexorably toward the black gulf of nothingness. Can you buy that? Deep down?

The endless cycle. Some seriously propose reincarnation, arguing that we are presently the result of countless past lives and that our future will consist of but other journeys in other forms within the life spiral.

Not even this age is happy with those bleak alternatives. Man seeks explanation in longevity, always desiring to live a few more days, even hoping to prolong life through freezing or through some magical "fountain of youth." The dream is usually set for today in terms of science fiction, fantasies that pass beyond the time zone or that step into another dimension as writer Rod Sterling was so fond of describing.

And yet, how feeble all our efforts! How terribly bleak and barren even the best of our imaginings without God's revelation for bearing.

Where do we begin?

Beyond the stars! With a Word! The Word!

A word is the symbolic representation of an idea. Note these words: dog, cat, house, car. Each of these symbols creates for you a mental picture. A concrete image.

John tells us that in the beginning was the Word. God's Word.

Jesus Christ . . . God's only begotten Son . . . the eternal Word . . . was made flesh. He came from timelessness into time. He descended from glory into humanity. He took upon Himself the form of man in order that, in the likeness of man, He might reveal God. Jesus Christ is therefore, literally, God's Word to man. In Christ we see God personified, we see God incarnate, we see God reduced to terms that are humanly recognizable.

It is in this sense that Christmas becomes the greatest of all stories, the most magnificent of all songs, and the ultimate of all truths. It is here that man can look beyond the stars and see; can tune his ear to space and hear.

For "The Word was made flesh. . . ."

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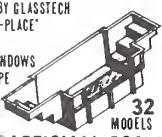
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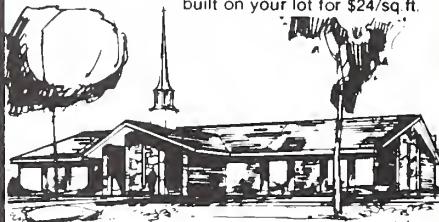
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ACTION

News & Views

General Department of Youth and Christian Education

BIBLE INSTITUTES FOR PEACEMAKERS

Many state youth directors will be sponsoring Peacemakers Bible Institutes in 1979.

These Bible Institutes will meet one night a week for nine weeks on the same night that the Ministerial Enrichment Institutes meet. During these sessions, Peacemakers will study Bible Quizzing questions and other related materials.

A new book entitled *Basic Bible Study* has been prepared for use especially during these Bible Institutes. It will be available January 1 at \$1.25 per copy from the General Department of Youth and Christian Education.

Bible Institutes offer opportunity for Peacemakers to study with other young people in their area. They also provide opportunity to study material for the Bible Division of Teen Talent.

Last year Southern Ohio and Alabama sponsored Bible Institutes for their Peacemakers. The Southern Ohio team was a finalist, and the Alabama team was the national winner in the Teen Talent Bible Division competition. Their success reveals some

of the influence the Bible Institutes had on their preparation for competition.

NEW CURRICULUM FOR PEACEMAKERS

The new curriculum, *Life in Action*, will be released July 15, 1979, for use beginning September 1.

Designed for Church of God young people, it will aid in crystallizing the name "Peacemakers" especially with regard to being a Peacemaker in lifestyle as well as in name.

The curriculum format will enable Peacemakers to represent Jesus in all areas through study of such units as the Creation, church history, dating, and family life.

SOUTH GEORGIA PEACEMAKER HONORED

Jeff O'Neal has become the first member of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) in the history of Glynn County, Georgia,

to be elected as a state officer of the Georgia Association of the FFA.

The FFA is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. Jeff will be representing District Two of the Georgia Association and will be working to promote the FFA chapters in his district by speaking at area high schools, civic clubs, and conventions across the state.

The main topic of his speeches will be agriculture and its relationship to the FFA; but Jeff's deep moral and spiritual convictions will play a vital role even in his FFA speeches.

Jeff is a member of the Norwich Street Church of God in Brunswick, Georgia. He is an Eagle Scout and serves as Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 206, recently named as the best troop in South Georgia. He is president of his Sunday school and Family Training Hour classes and is an active member of the youth choir.

Jeff served as president of the Glynn Academy High School FFA chapter during his senior year and graduated in June 1978.

A dedicated Peacemaker, Jeff O'Neal attributes his success to the Lord.

—Nancy Neal

JEFF O'NEAL



ROOM 774: BEHIND THE SCENES

Important ideas and programs do not just happen; they are hammered out by men.

The place is Gatlinburg, nestled in the foothills of the Smokies, where during mornings the trees drip dew and puffs of fog float like dirigibles between mountain peaks.

Sandaled and bearded men sit on sidewalk benches, eat in open restaurants that face the street or the mountain stream, or else walk up and down the one main thoroughfare with wives and children, window shopping.

Gatlinburg is a resort town paused for breath: the summer rush just over, the hoards who will come to view God's fall spectacular "Mountains Aflame" not yet arrived. Motel rates are competitive; eating places anxious to serve.

Seated around a long table in Room 774 of the Holiday Inn are eleven men—men who represent the Youth and Christian Education

Department of the Church of God and men who, one way or another, have power to shape and influence your future.

Emphasize the word *men*: for men they are. No longer novices, not mere directors of youth camps, or lackeys of a system, or paper shufflers waiting for opportunity to move elsewhere—these are dedicated disciples, specialists in an extremely complex ministry, men called and committed to youth. (See chart.)

National Director Floyd Carey emphasizes the seriousness of the task when he calls the meeting to order and presents the new Board Chairman W. A. Davis. The gaval falls. Work begins.

Casually observed, committees appear cumbersome, awkward, ungainly. They advance, retreat, sidestep; they often split; they may wander far afield or circle endlessly. When properly chaired, however,

committees are democracy in microcosm; they represent the finest alternative to tyranny; and they have an uncanny ability to promote brotherhood and to create a concensus of opinion out of diverse backgrounds.

Dickie Davis bangs the gaval

L. P. Staff Photos



without sweat on his palms.

Some matters are routine. Some focus on evaluations, such as how to better organize and coordinate Teen Talent activities statewide and at the General Assembly. And some came marching forward with historical and dramatic significance:

(1) Introduction next fall of a Family Training Hour curriculum. Practical. Inexpensive. Tagged to the needs of the average congregation. Written by Church of God authors. Already approved and in the printing process.

(2) A wide-angle look at Teen Talent programming and the need to emphasize grass roots music education along with competition. Where does this Department stand? Have we considered or should we consider music education, especially among young people, a part of our responsibility?

(3) Youth World Evangelism Appeal (YWEA). A program launched from just such a meeting as this fifteen years ago and now budgeted at more than half a million

PROFILE: YOUTH BOARD		
Department Leaders	Years of Service to Youth	Years in the Ministry
Floyd D. Carey	18	26
R. Lamar Vest	14	22
J. Ralph Brewer	12	21
Marcus Hand		24
	—	—
Board Members	44	93
W. A. Davis	15	15
Raymond Culpepper	8	14
Lawrence Leonhardt	12	25
Charles Marcelle	4	9
Harold Downing	1	15
Robert Herrin	4	22
David Meadows	2	21
	—	—
TOGETHER:	46	121
90 years of youth work 214 years of ministry		

dollars. This year's target: *Project: Africa*. Marcus Hand added to the staff as YWEA Coordinator.

(4) Projections into 1980, the bicentennial of the Sunday school. Plans for coordinating various programs and for bringing new interest and new life to Sunday school challenge.

Not all moments are weighty. Raymond Culpepper brings one motion forward with a simple, "I move we do it." Dave Meadows seconds. It then requires some time for secretary Ralph Brewer to pen exactly what.

"I do better as a second," Raymond says.

Ralph writes. Grapes, candy, nuts and nectarines dis-

appear from two table centerpieces. Then the gavel.

Someone notes how far into the future the agenda is projected already.

"That's Floyd's work," Lamar says. "It's necessary in terms of scheduling. Other departments are also giving attention to long-range planning."

"Lamar," Dickie Davis speaks. "I happen to know you yourself are an advocate of long-range planning. Tell us about it."

There's a pause, the shuffle of papers.

"Everybody listen. Brother Vest has the floor."

"You serious?"

Dickie nods.

"What he's referring to is the day I had him in my car and I waxed warm on the subject of long-range planning."

Pause.

"Well, right in the middle of my talk, I ran out of gasoline, and we were stranded on the freeway."

Within hours, those men from Room 774 were sharing departmental plans with all state youth and Christian education directors and they in turn were going before state ministers and they to you in your local church. That's the system and how it works.

Partly. Or, from the human side.

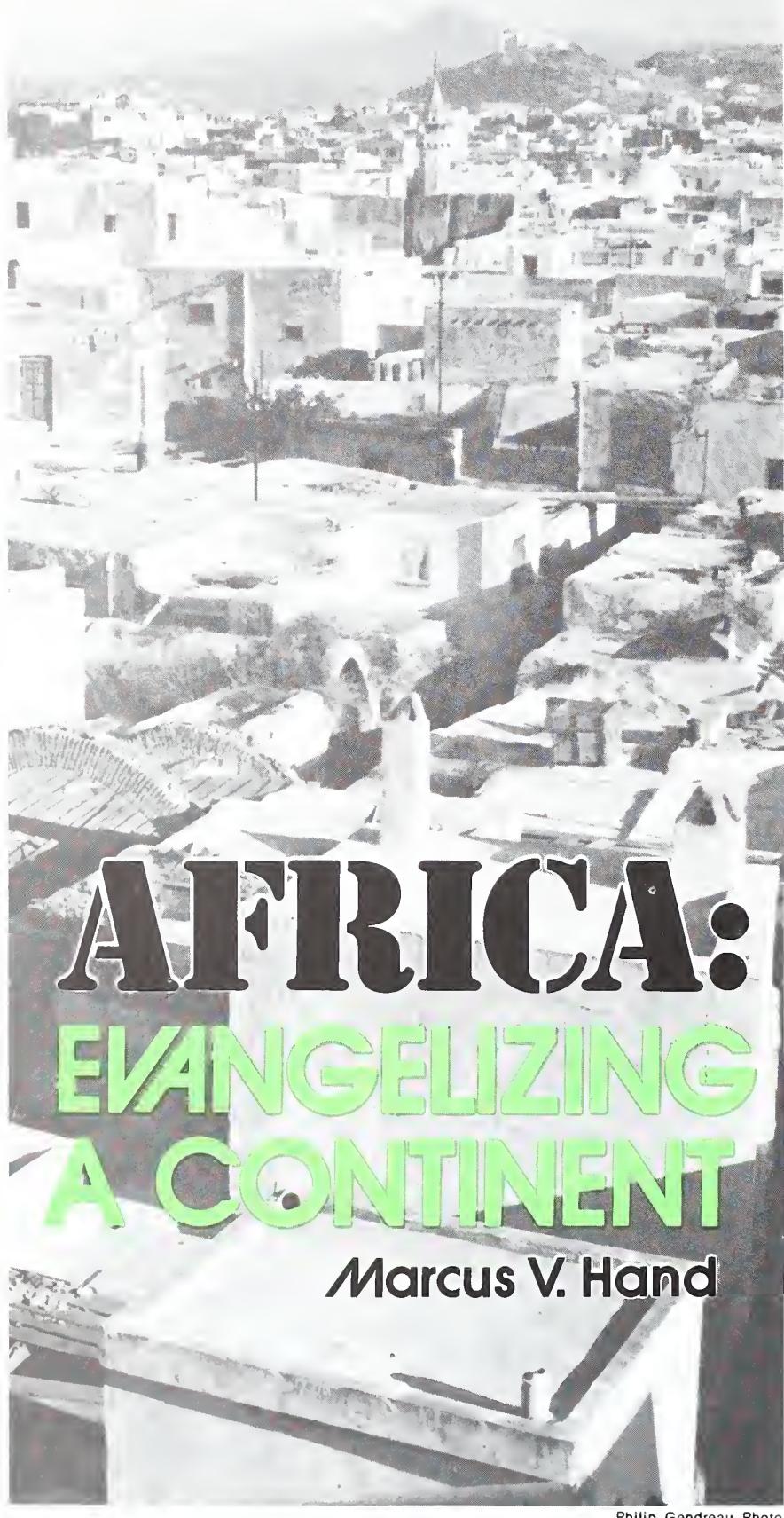
Faith brings God into the picture . . . and God's Spirit Who knows where Gatlinburg is . . . and God's commission which is to evangelize and make disciples of all men . . . and God's power which multiplies human effort a thousandfold.

The theme echoes . . .

"Onward Together."

H.E.S.





AFRICA: EVANGELIZING A CONTINENT

Marcus V. Hand

Philip Gendreau Photo

Would you like to go to Africa? You can, through this year's dynamic youth missions endeavor.

The theme for the 1979 Youth World Evangelism Appeal is "Africa: Evangelizing a Continent."

Every year young people like you raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for missions through YWEA. They build churches, erect Bible schools, set up training centers; and, in many ways, involve themselves in the harvest of these last days.

The Africa project promises to be an exciting and challenging venture. The task is to evangelize an entire continent—to penetrate a harvest field.

News media and international forums spotlight Africa with ever-increasing frequency. Revolution and turmoil push the continent to the center of the world stage. Political ideologies and false religions vie for the acceptance of the African people.

In the midst of this, however, God is sending a mighty move of the Holy Spirit. The Church of God has gained more than a thousand new churches in Africa since 1970.

Revival flames have never burned brighter!

The Africa project is the need of the hour. It focuses the attention of the church on Africa. Through this project, young people will sponsor revival crusades, support literature campaigns, establish churches, train workers, and equip missionaries.

Your part in the Africa project is also important.

Through YWEA, you will preach with Gerhard Becker in Nigeria. You will stand by Andre Marcellin in Chad. You will disciple believers with S. E. Arnold in Ghana. You

will help train workers in Kenya and evangelize with Bernard Mambwe in Zambia. You will walk in twenty-two African nations and play a vital role in world missions.

Go to Africa?

Perhaps not physically.

But through YWEA you will go in your prayers and in your active involvement. You will go to Africa in a way that is more meaningful than a tourist safari to a big game preserve.

You will help evangelize a continent!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Accept the challenge of evangelizing a continent.
2. Read all you can about Africa.
3. Encourage other young people to be involved.
4. Highlight youth missions programs in your Peacemaker's Resource Manual.
5. Urge your pastor to name a Youth Missions Committee to coordinate activities.
6. Volunteer to serve as Local YWEA Representative. (Write to the General Department of Youth and Christian Education for information.)
7. Plan a Youth Missions Festival.
8. Conduct a prayer and planning session to set goals for the Africa project.
9. Map out a strategy that will enable you to reach your goal.
10. Undergird Africa and the YWEA project with a solid base of prayer.

BUFORD, GEORGIA YWEA Involvement

Young people from the Buford, Georgia, church have raised more than \$10,000 for YWEA during each of the past two years.

Led by Pastor James T. Guyton, the entire congregation is turned on to their obligation to the Great Commission. The youth are just as involved as the rest of the church.

These Buford young people conduct bake sales and wash cars. They sponsor walk-a-thons, rock-a-thons, special singings, and many other activities during their annual YWEA campaigns.

The highlight last year was a 102-mile bike-a-thon.

Among the twenty-four young people who participated were Pastor Guyton and Ed Braswell, 70-year-old clerk of the church. These leaders biked the entire distance, and the group raised more than \$7,000 on this project alone.

Pastor Guyton says, "It's impossible to estimate the spiritual impact YWEA has had on our young people and on our whole church. Every church should have a youth missions program."

—Marcus V. Hand

Below: Pastor, Clerk, and young people from the Buford Church of God prepare to start their one-hundred-mile bike-a-thon for YWEA.



Marcus V. Hand,

as YWEA Coordinator, will prepare materials to promote and explain the annual YWEA projects. He will create filmstrips, posters, brochures, and advertisements. He will maintain a resource file of pictures and vital information about the church's mission fields.

In addition, he will assist state directors in involving young people in YWEA projects by recommending fund-raising ideas and providing training opportunities.

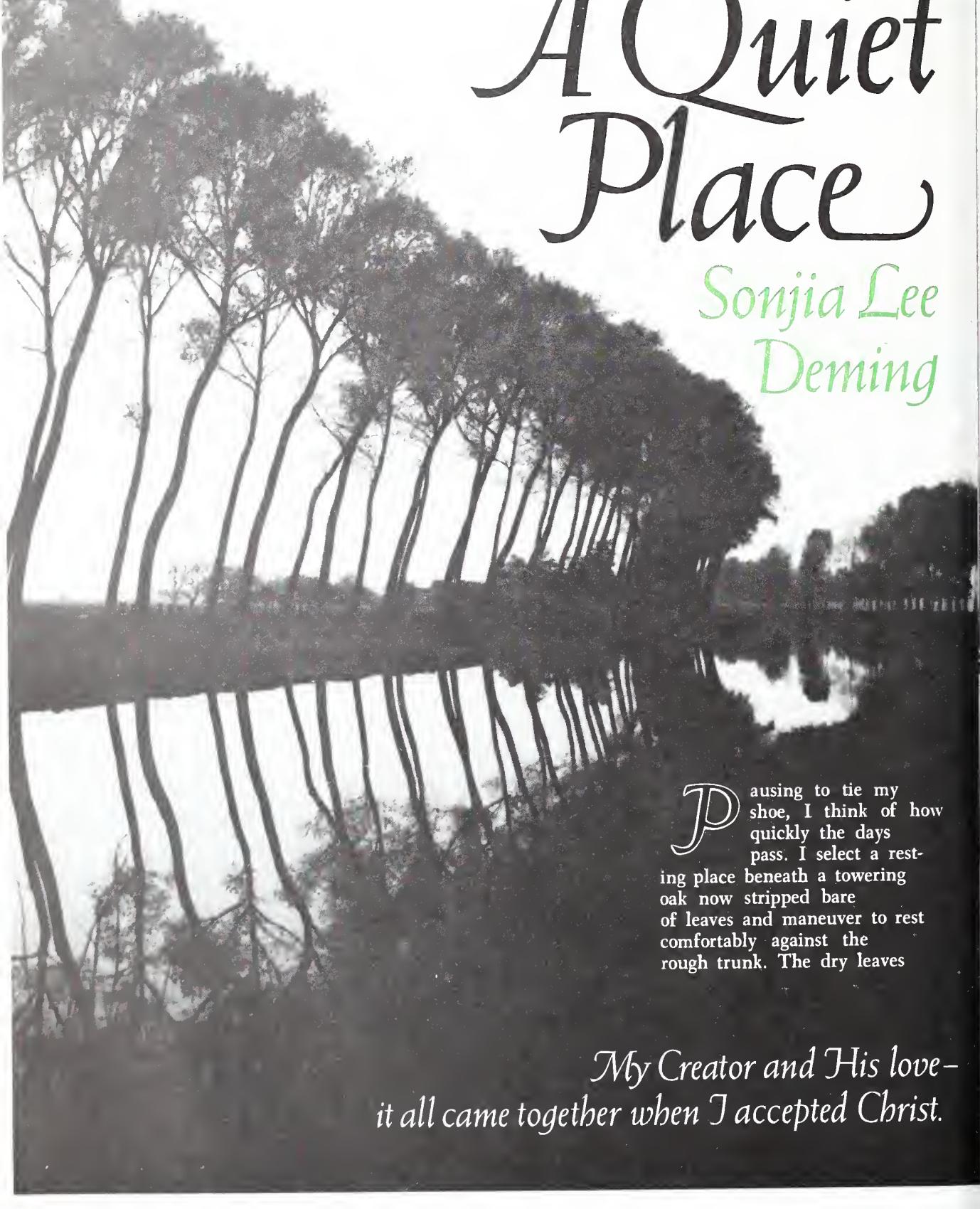
Brother Hand will be actively involved in a program of missions exposure to keep Church of God young people informed about the dynamics of the missions challenge in all its complexity.

As a first step in this education area, Marcus has authored *Put Your Arms Around the World*, a Peacemaker's training text in missions. With study aids to enhance reader involvement, the book summarizes the various aspects of missions outreach and gives an overview of the challenges facing contemporary missionaries. It also indicates the value of radio, television, the computer, and the printed word as technological advancements in world evangelism, and it calls for personal commitment to missions from Peacemakers.

In addition to providing the book, Brother Hand will organize festivals and retreats for training and motivation.

A Quiet Place

Sonjia Lee
Deming



Pausing to tie my shoe, I think of how quickly the days pass. I select a resting place beneath a towering oak now stripped bare of leaves and maneuver to rest comfortably against the rough trunk. The dry leaves

*My Creator and His love—
it all came together when I accepted Christ.*

rustle and crunch.

A shiver tingles my spine as a cool autumn breeze whisks gently up the hill. The sky is clear and blue this late afternoon, a perfect day for being alone to think.

I have come here often this past semester but not usually alone. Several friends would join me. We would ride our bikes through the woods in late afternoons, scaring squirrels and blue jays who scolded vigorously but safely from nearby tree limbs, concerned that we made more noise than they.

Sometimes a friend and I would bring our books here to study. The afternoons melted away, and school became a million miles distant. Study time would become nap time. The squirrels would scold.

This place is mine. And when I come alone as now I feel another Presence. I've never heard an audible Voice. I've never seen a burning bush. But I've talked with God here.

All alone I have seen the grandeur of the skies and the magnificent beauty of the trees, the clouds, and yes, even the squirrels. I have recognized the power and the existence of my Creator. My Creator and His love—it all came together when I accepted Jesus.

In Jesus Christ, I've found a special Friend who wants to lead me to high places I've never seen; and I'm determined to go with Him. The way may lead through a valley where more than squirrels vent their anger as we pass, but the path invariably leads upward.

So today, alone, I leave my remote hillside for a little while. After a few days home for the holidays I hope to return to its peace again.

My quiet place. I must not forget.



A. Devaney, Inc. Photo

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Puzzle by Lori Larson

According to the Bible, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are members of the Godhead (Colossians 2:9). Various names by which God is called in the Bible reveal Him to us in all His beauty and power. Some of His names are hidden in this puzzle. They may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, forward or backward, and are listed below.

Almighty	Friend	Lord
Christ	God	Master
Counselor	Holy Ghost	Most High
Creator	Jehovah	Prince of Peace
Emmanuel	Jesus	Redeemer
Everlasting	King of Kings	Savior
Father	Lamb	Word

Answers in next month's issue

Something to Think About?

Ever get discouraged because things move slowly? Others have the same problem. On October 18, this year, Congress restored citizenship to Jefferson Davis, retroactive to 1868.

* * * * *

Have antismoking ads helped? The Tobacco Institute would like to make us say no, but HEW says yes. Definitely. While the number of smokers itself is slightly up, the percentage of people smoking is somewhat less.

The biggest problem is now teenage girls. More of them smoke than boys.

* * * * *

More on smoking. From a PBS radio program aired January 14.

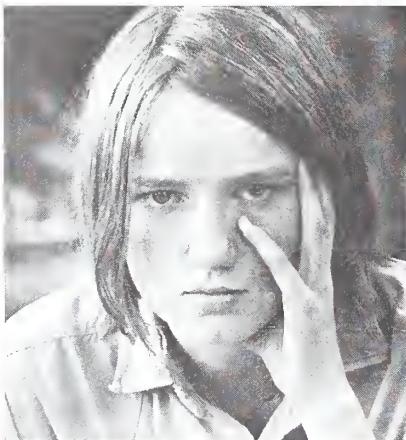
Some myths:

1. *Smoking is on the increase.* Wrong! Since the Surgeon General's Report, 29 million Americans have kicked the habit. Millions more now confess they would like to quit.

2. *Smoking is done by the elite and the sophisticated.*

Wrong again! Research shows that those better educated are those most likely to quit. New smokers tend to be young high schoolers. And dropouts.

3. *Economic factors forbid doing away with tobacco in the south.* On the contrary, the industry is doomed, realizes it, and is seeking diversification. Profits are off because advertising costs have skyrocketed. The economic argument is ridiculous anyway. If one wishes to look at it correctly, you must calculate the economic costs of lives lost, time lost by those suffering from lung cancer, and so forth. These far outweigh the "farm" factor.



* * * * *

Girls, dieting can be dangerous. An illness called anorexia nervosa (nervous appetite) is on the increase. It begins with dieting and ends with gruesome emaciation. It's more than just fad dieting carried too far. Girls often can't stop losing weight without psychiatric help. Some starve themselves into a chemical imbalance. Some die.

* * * * *

A bit too far, wouldn't you say? Women Libbers, gathered in Santa Cruz, danced to bongo drums and gave cheers to such ancient goddesses as Iris, Astara, Demeter, and Artemis. It's a new religious phenomenon called "goddess consciousness." The session closed with half the group chanting, "The goddess is us," while the other half chanted, "The goddess is here." (Exodus 20:3, 4)

* * * * *

Men tend to become atheists more than women. "Eighty percent of our members are male," said Madalyn Murray O'Hair, founder and president of American Atheists, at a recent dedication of an atheist museum in Petersburg, Indiana. Madalyn thinks it's because women

have been brainwashed.

Hang in there, ladies. Any visit to any church on any Wednesday night will tell some of the story. You outnumber men about eight to two.

* * * * *

Suicides are increasing among young people aged fifteen to twenty-four. It now ranks third as a cause of death, after accidents and homicide.

Authorities aren't sure why.

Morris Paulson, the clinical psychologist who conducted a recent study at UCLA, found one common denominator: "Every child had a home that wasn't providing the understanding and caring a child needs." (Time, September 25, 1978). The children come from families where "there tends to be a concept of guilt induced as a means of controlling behavior."

* * * * *

A bright note. Grove Press, New York, refused to publish Jens Thorsen's book, *The Many Faces of Jesus*, because it defames the Lord's character.

* * * * *

A book you should read. Paperback. *The Greatest Miracle in the World*, by Og Mandino.

For those of you who won't, this summary:

An old ragpicker shares with the author a "Memo From the Creator," setting forth four principles of personal success.

Number one: Be thankful for your blessings. *Number two:* Declare your own uniqueness.

Number three: Go the extra mile in whatever you do. *Number four:* Exercise your power of choice.

YOU ARE THE GREATEST MIRACLE IN THE WORLD.

LP Staff

Book Review

Courage for Crisis Living, Paul L. Walker (Fleming H. Revell Company, Old Tappan, New Jersey, 1978).

A book of eleven sermons. Paul Lavern at his best: psychologist, counselor, pulpiteer, but most of all the concerned pastor.

These aren't normal run-of-the-mill sermons. These are probes into the human heart. They inspire faith in God and in "self" as an object of God's intimate concern.

Some titles: "Will the Real You Stand Up!" "You Can Win With Worry," "An Inside Look at the Outside Life," "Positive Power in Negative Times."

Youth and family reading. It's \$5.95, available at most bookstores, or order through Pathway, 922 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee 37311.

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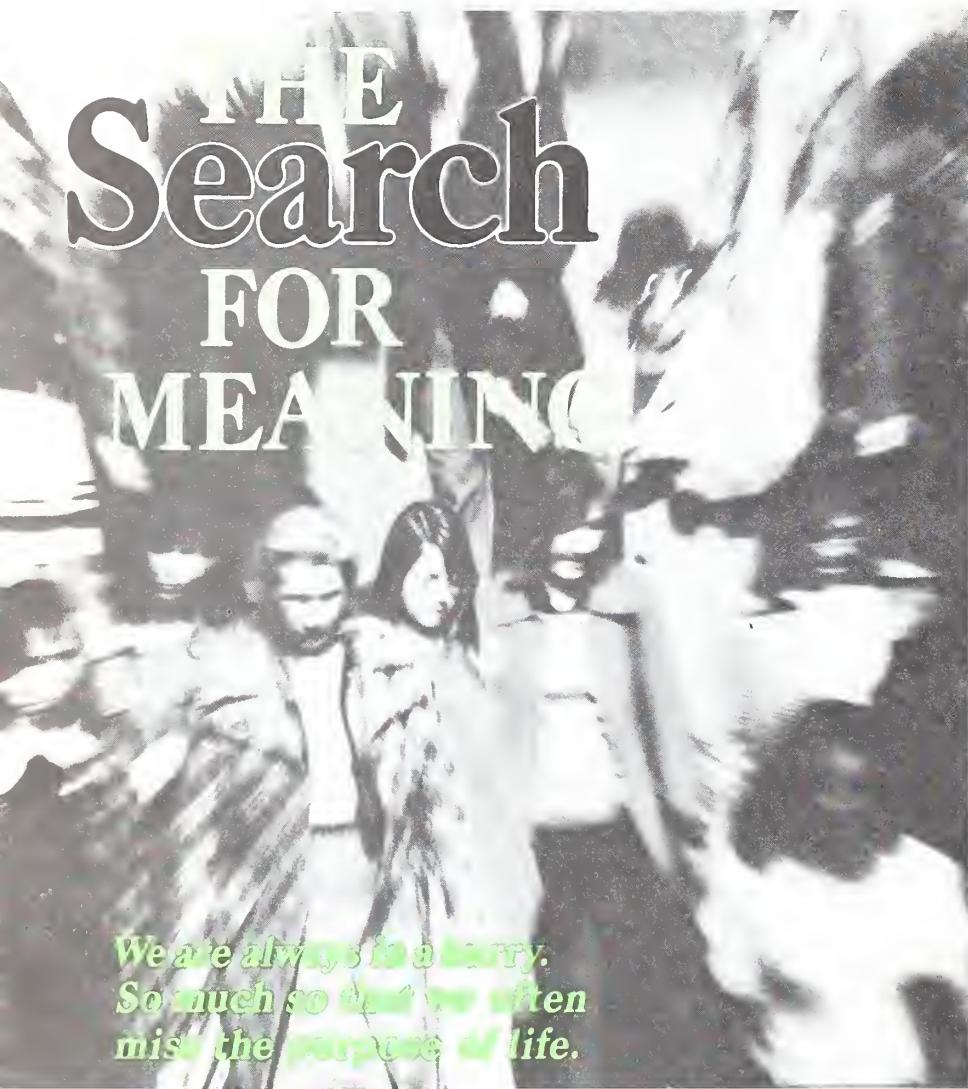
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Many young people are asking, "What is my reason for living?" Ecclesiastes deals very pointedly with this subject. Solomon tells us he has studied life, watched life, lived life, and found it meaningless. Money, possessions, things—he tried them all, but found no meaning.

Closing the book, Solomon speaks especially to young people, noting "you will stand before God and be judged for the way you live." Remember God in

your youth. Learn early to live for Him (Ecclesiastes 12:1). What is the conclusion of the matter? We should fear God and obey His Word, for this is the purpose and meaning of life (see verses 13 and 14).

We live a fast-paced lifestyle. We are always in a hurry. So much so that we often miss the purpose of life. We are to reverence and love the Lord and follow Him. There is no other real, lasting meaning outside of this.

To those who would get caught up in matters of intellect and knowledge, Solomon says, "Of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh" (verse 12). Solomon reminds us that the meaning of life is not found in the head, but in the heart. Peace cannot be found in external relationships, possessions, or activities. Peace comes only through a right relationship to God, and we establish this by accepting Christ as personal Savior and Lord.

What then is the key to life?

A story is told about the cunning of American Indians. When traveling through the woods, they would walk in single file, each Indian putting his moccasin in the exact footprint of the Indian before him. If an enemy scout came upon the tracks, he thought just one Indian had passed.

That should describe the Christian. We should walk so close to Christ that the tracks we leave are His. We should put our feet in His footsteps.

When the world looks at the tracks you are leaving, do they say, "Jesus came by here, for I see the tracks of His presence"? They should. That is the only real meaning to life: living the lifestyle of Jesus.

Solomon closes the book and sums up life with these words: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Ecclesiastes 12: 13, 14).

Beyond the Trappings



Hoyt E. Stone

It is this time of year when lights are brightest and music is loudest and people are most boisterous. When merchants work hardest and customers spend most. When even churches go all out to stage dramas and musicals and annual extravaganzas.

I wonder why.

Could it be there's something basic in Christmas, something so grand and so noble that, more than anything else, our spiritual adversary wants us to forget? Something that really doesn't need colored lights, or music, or amateur drama, or baked turkey, or any human touch?

There are places in our world where Christian believers are forbidden to celebrate Christmas publicly. In such countries it is obvious that Satan has won a victory. His influence on us may be less obvious but just as total. For what significant difference is there between those who can't commemorate His birth and those who don't?

We are not by choice Christmas saboteurs. There is no conspiracy among religious leaders. None of us advocate the glossing over of Christmas truth. Nevertheless, we find it easy to keep quiet, easy to go along, easy to become entangled in the trappings, and especially difficult to break out of the traditional mold.

Again the question. Why? Perhaps the answer lies in

human nature itself. We choose trivial over serious subjects. We daydream rather than getting down to serious planning. We choose what is at hand, rather than search for choice treasure.

It's simply easier to get wrapped up in Christmas trapping than to force our way into the Holy of Holies. Miracle is something serious. Miracle, by its nature, demands total concentration. It requires every ounce of energy, every pulsating thought, every nerve and fiber.

In the presence of miracle, especially the greatest and most glorious miracle of the ages, we stand spiritually and emotionally naked. We are stripped. Alone. Totally isolated. The only voice, God's. The only consciousness, grace. The only prayer, mercy. The only response, commitment.

No one lives always in that Holy sanctuary of God-consciousness.

Perhaps none can.

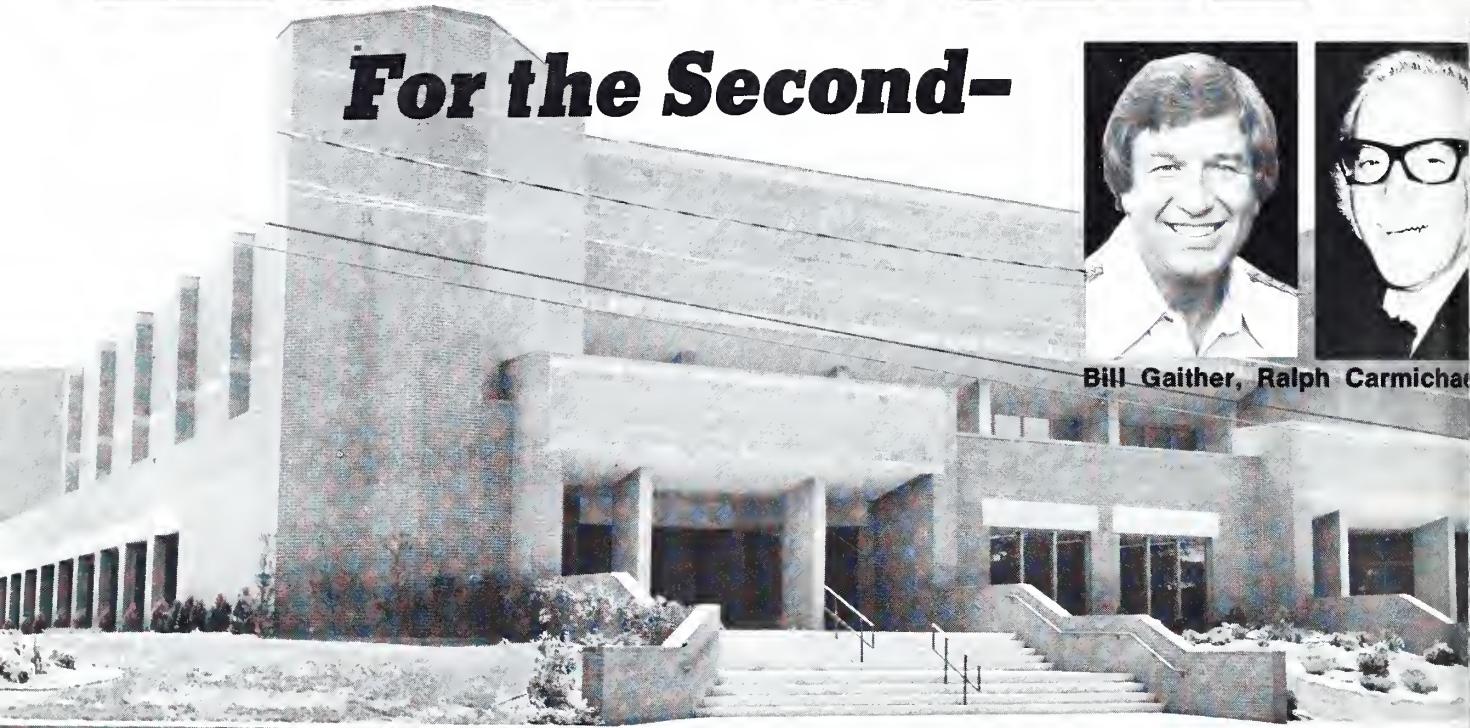
But surely we need to visit, we need to make a periodic pilgrimage into that quiet place of the miracle, we need to be where divine and human come together; for it is this encounter that brings true hope.

What better moment than Christmas?

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Hoyt E. Stone".

Last Call!

For the Second-



Bill Gaither, Ralph Carmichael

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